

**MINUTES OF THE JUNE 22, 2021
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

June 22, 2021

1. Opening Items

1.01 CALL TO ORDER

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

1.02 ROLL CALL

President Angela Taylor and Board Members Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, and Diane Nicolet were present. Board Member Kurt Thigpen was present via video conferencing. Superintendent Kristen McNeill and staff were also present.

1.03 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Debra Biersdorff, Deputy Superintendent led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.04 ACTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

John Eppolito expressed disappointment in the divisiveness President Taylor and Superintendent McNeill had fostered in the District and community. He felt by removing the first General Public Comment agenda item, the Board was trying to silence the parents and community members who were not following their line.

Nicol Herris stated it was inappropriate for President Taylor to remove the first General Public Comment agenda item because it would force the community members to stand outside in the hot sun or sit for very long periods of time in order to exercise their freedom of speech. She recommended the Board reduce the number of agenda items they heard instead of the public comment periods.

Bruce Parks remarked that by removing the first General Public Comment period, President Taylor was showing her clear disdain for the community. He stated the Board should focus on their job of producing students who could function in society.

Melanie Sutton agreed with the prior comments. She noted there were a lot of people who wanted to attend the meetings but there was no room in the Board Room for everyone so they had to stay outside.

Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, noted the meeting began with 27 empty seats in the Board Room. At the present time, there were 12 empty seats and the overflow room was not being used.

Matt True felt if the Board managed their time better, their meetings would not last as long and there would be ample time for public comment.

Val White claimed that moving the General Public Comment period to the end of the meeting was an effort by the Board to silence those who disagreed with them. She urged parents to pull their children from District schools.

James Benthin felt the Board was in violation of Open Meeting Law by removing the first General Public Comment period. He was also interested in having Board Reports added back onto the agendas.

Katherine Snedgar claimed the Board was in violation of her free speech rights by removing public comment periods from the meeting.

Margaret Martini stated the Board was attempting to stifle those who did not agree with what they were doing in the schools by removing the public comment periods.

Blair Speth agreed with the prior comments about removing public comment. He urged the Board to conduct an external review of all policy changes made by Superintendent McNeill since she was responsible for the agendas.

The Board received an email from Kristen DeHaan regarding the agenda item.

Trustee Church expressed concerns about the changes made to the agenda format. He stated he could not approve the agenda because he believed the public comment period should not have been removed.

President Taylor stated the initial General Public Comment period was removed by the Board Leadership Team, after consultation with Legal Counsel, to allow those members of the community interested in specific agenda items the opportunity to have their voices heard as well.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees approves the agenda as presented.** The result of the vote was 6-1:

(Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen. Nay: Jeff Church.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

2. Consent Agenda Items

Trustee Church requested Consent Agenda Items 2.04, 2.06, 2.14, and 2.15 be pulled for additional discussion.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Valerie Fiannaca spoke on Consent Agenda Item 2.33. She felt the expenditure of close to \$4.3 million for insurance coverage was too much and that the Board would see additional law suits if they approved social justice policies.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Thigpen that **the Board of Trustees approves Consent Agenda Items 2.02, 2.03, 2.05, 2.07 through 2.13, and 2.16 through 2.37.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

- 2.02 The Board of Trustees approved the minutes of the February 9, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- 2.03 The Board of Trustees approved the minutes of the February 23, 2021 Work Session of the Board of Trustees.
- 2.05 The Board of Trustees approved the University of Nevada, Reno Field Based Instructor Agreement between Washoe County School District and the College of Education for reimbursement to the District of one (1) counselor in the amount of \$97,149 and three (3) teachers in the amount of \$242,000, for a total of \$339,149.
- 2.07 The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of bus fleet tires estimated at \$250,000 from authorized Michelin Tire and Service Centers through Joinder BuyBoard Contract #636-21 for the period of twelve (12) months July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.
- 2.08 The Board of Trustees approved the contract for Comprehensive K-12 Virtual School Program for one year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022 in the estimated amount of \$415,350 to Pearson Online & Blended Learning K-12 USA (PEARSON).

- 2.09 The Board of Trustees approved the one-year agreement with Specialty Health for Wellness Screenings for 2021, in the amount of \$145,000.
- 2.10 The Board of Trustees approved the Agreement for Professional Services Contract for Architecture Services between H&K Architects & Washoe County School District for the Veterans Seismic Retrofit Phase 2 (Building A) in the total amount of \$320,000.
- 2.11 The Board of Trustees approved the renewal of the software licenses for comprehensive English Language (EL) programming from ELlevation Inc. in the approximate amount of \$236,857.82 for use throughout the District.
- 2.12 The Board of Trustees approved Amendment #2 to renew the College Readiness and Success Agreement with College Board for the SpringBoard English Language Arts (ELA) Program including student and teacher materials and resources for one (1) year beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 in the estimated amount of \$130,851.05.
- 2.13 The Board of Trustees approved the Master Software and Services Agreement with Dreambox Learning for both distance learning and in-person instruction for math skills for all elementary schools and middle schools using the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II) under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Appropriations Act (CRRSA) not to exceed \$967,629.38.
- 2.16 The Board of Trustees approved the award of Request for Proposal (RFP) 21-004, Commercial Purchasing Card Program, to Commerce Bank for an estimated annual revenue share of \$350,000 for an initial term of one (1) year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022 with four (4) optional one (1) year renewals.
- 2.17 The Board of Trustees approved, the following re-appointments to the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission (SHSC) for 2 year terms ending June 30, 2023: Leanne McCulley, Misty Vaughn Allen, Darin Balaam, Charlene Bybee, and Lorraine Benuto; and approved the appointment of Elizabeth Flores for a 2-year term ending June 30, 2023.
- 2.18 The Board of Trustees approved Renewal #3 of Request for Bid (RFB) #054-04-03-17, District-wide Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Repairs, to Quality Control Systems, Inc. as the primary supplier, Gardner Engineering and Mechanical Services, Inc. as the secondary supplier and Elite Air as the tertiary supplier in the estimated amount of

\$402,000 for an additional one (1) year beginning August 1, 2021 and ending July 31, 2022.

- 2.19 The Board of Trustees approved the Authorization to Move Forward with Bid #21-106-B-05-DA, Tennis Court Replacement Project at Incline High School, in the estimated amount of \$400,000 with Ratification of the Award of this Project at a Future Board Meeting.
- 2.20 The Board of Trustees approved the Authorization to Move Forward with Bid #21-109-B-06-DA, Relocation of Portable Classroom Buildings to Nick Poulakidas Elementary School, in the approximate amount of \$470,000 with Ratification of the Award of this Project at a Future Board Meeting.
- 2.21 The Board of Trustees approved the Authorization to Move Forward with Bid #21-110-B-06-DA, Pavement Rehabilitation Projects at Lois Allen Elementary School, Caughlin Ranch Elementary School, Roy Gomm Elementary School, Hunter Lake Elementary School, Incline Elementary School, Smithridge Elementary School, Spanish Springs Elementary School, B.D. Billingham Middle School, and Fred W. Traner Middle School, in the estimated amount of \$402,500 with Ratification of the Award of these Projects at a Future Board Meeting.
- 2.22 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #21-101-B-05-AA, Irrigation Upgrades at Huffaker Elementary School, to Garden Shop Nursery Landscaping Division, Inc. for \$102,550.
- 2.23 The Board of Trustees approved the appointments to the Audit Committee for two-year terms, beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023, of Wesley Chewjalearn, Vitalis Ozoude, and Debra Yates.
- 2.24 The Board of Trustees accepted the Annual Follow-up of the Transportation Department White Fleet and School Bus Services Audit, as recommended by the Audit Committee.
- 2.25 The Board of Trustees accepted the Annual Follow-up of the Property Control Audit, as recommended by the Audit Committee.
- 2.26 The Board of Trustees accepted the Annual Follow-up of the Nutrition Services – Unpaid Balances and Community Eligibility Audit, as recommended by the Audit Committee.

- 2.27 The Board of Trustees accepted the Annual Follow-up of the Office of Information Technology Organizational Structure and Security Program Audit, as recommended by the Audit Committee.
- 2.28 The Board of Trustees accepted the Office of Human Resources Sick Leave Bank Audit, as recommended by the Audit Committee.
- 2.29 The Board of Trustees approved the reappointment of Andrew Diss as the Gaming Industry Representative to the Capital Funding Protection Committee and the Oversight Panel for School Facilities for an additional 2-year term, beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023.
- 2.30 The Board of Trustees approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Washoe County School District and the Washoe Education Support Professionals for the isolation allowance for Education Support Professionals assigned at Incline Village schools for \$325 per year.
- 2.31 The Board of Trustees accepted the Budget Transfer Reports and provided authorization to include budget transfers between functions or programs for the General Fund, Special Education Fund, Medicaid Fund, 2005 AB299 Indian Colony Fund, 2017C WC-1 G.O. Bonds Fund, 2019B WC-1 G.O. Bonds Fund, 2020A WC-1 G.O. Bonds Fund, 2017B Extended Rollover Bonds Fund, and the 2019 Extended Rollover Bonds Fund for the period May 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021 and approved the transfer of \$77,520.00 from the District's General Fund Contingency account to the Board of Trustees budget account in the official Board minutes, as required by Nevada Revised Statute 354.598005.
- 2.32 The Board of Trustees approved the grant application to The Nell J. Redfield Foundation for the Redfield Community Outreach Program for \$311,277.
- 2.33 The Board of Trustees approved the recommendation of the Risk Management Department for the renewal of the District's property, liability, excess workers' compensation, network security, crime, National Flood Insurance and Assault Threat & Response Coverage for the renewal policy period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 for \$4,296,222.
- 2.34 The Board of Trustees approved, pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute 286.523, Pupil Transportation Assistant as critical labor shortage areas in order to hire individuals under critical needs status.

- 2.35 The Board of Trustees approved the extension of the letters of agreement between the District and Accelify (Frontline) in the estimated amount of \$423,000 from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.
- 2.36 The Board of Trustees approved the Memorandum of Understanding with the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education, to support the dual enrollment and participation of Washoe County School District students with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (IDD) in the Path to Independence (P2I) Program at the University of Nevada, Reno during the 2021-2022 School Year in the amount of \$60,000.
- 2.37 The Board of Trustees approved the appointments of the following members to the Zoning Advisory Committee: Kristen DeHaan, Trustee Zone C Representation, for a 1-year term ending June 30, 2022; Lauren Rushing, At-Large Representative, for a 2-year term ending June 30, 2023; and Rachel Fisher, Certified Teacher/Counselor, for a 2-year term ending June 30, 2023.
- 2.04 **POSSIBLE ACTION TO PROVIDE PRELIMINARY APPROVAL TO THE ADOPTION OF BOARD POLICY 9300, REPORTING OF FRAUD, WASTE, OR ABUSE, TO OUTLINE THE FILING AND INVESTIGATION PROCESS FOR COMPLAINTS, AND INITIATE THE 13-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD**

Trustee Church requested additional clarification on the confidentiality of reporting because he was interested in seeing all complaints publicly reported, if legally allowable. He moved the Board of Trustees sends Board Policy 9300, Reporting of Fraud, Waste, or Abuse, back to the Board Policy Committee for additional revisions. The motion died for lack of a second.

It was moved by Trustee Minetto and seconded by Trustee Calvert that **the Board of Trustees provides preliminary approval to the adoption of Board Policy 9300, Reporting of Fraud, Waste, Or Abuse, and initiates the 13-day public review and comment period.** The result of the vote was 6-1: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen. Nay: Jeff Church.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

- 2.06 **APPROVAL TO PURCHASE FLEET FUELS ESTIMATED AT \$1,500,000 FROM PILOT THOMAS LOGISTICS THROUGH THE JOINDER STATE OF NEVADA PURCHASING FUEL CARD LOCK CONTRACT #99SWC-NV21-7551 FOR THE PERIOD OF TWELVE (12) MONTHS JULY 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022**

Trustee Church mentioned he had heard the District did not accept a lower bid and wondered why that was the case. Scott Lee, Director of Transportation, stated the contract was issued and approved by the State of Nevada. The District was only joining onto the State's contract.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees approves the purchase of fleet fuels estimated at \$1,500,000 from Pilot Thomas Logistics through the Joinder State of Nevada Purchasing Fuel Card Lock Contract #99SWC-NV21-7551 for the period of twelve (12) months July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

2.14 APPROVAL OF THE MASTER SUBSCRIPTION LICENSES AND SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ILLUMINATE EDUCATION FOR THE SCHOOLCITY WEB-BASED STUDENT DATA ASSESSMENT SYSTEM FOR A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024 IN AN ESTIMATED AMOUNT BETWEEN \$1,258,424 AND \$1,295,481

Trustee Church requested additional information on the program and the fluctuation in the total amount. Sandra Aird, Director of Assessment, explained Illuminate Education provided the District with their assessment platform. The price was based on the number of students, so there was a possibility the cost could increase.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Paulina Gersocvick remarked that the description of the program made it sound wonderful; however, she was concerned there was no evaluation on how the students performed after using the program.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Calvert that **the Board of Trustees approves the Master Subscription Licenses and Services Agreement with Illuminate Education for the SchoolCity web-based student data assessment system for a term of three (3) years beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024 in an estimated amount between \$1,258,424 and \$1,295,481.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

2.15 APPROVAL OF MASTER SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PROGRESSUS THERAPY, LLC FOR EDUCATION AND EDUCATION-RELATED SERVICES

FOR THE PLACEMENT OF UP TO 45 SOCIAL WORKERS IN SCHOOLS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,159,120

Trustee Church wondered why the District could not provide services in-house. Katherine Loudon, Counseling Coordinator, explained the District did not have an adequate number of social workers needed and had been working with temp agencies to place the additional staff needed.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Darla Lee felt that if the District did not utilize screens so much when teaching students, they would not need as many social workers in the schools. She remarked that the District should focus on educating students in the basics and not on social policy. She stated if students were so "messed up" that there was a need for that many social workers in the schools, then the problem was with the schools and not the students.

Superintendent McNeill countered that students and families who needed the services of social workers should never be referred to as "messed up."

It was moved by Trustee Thigpen and seconded by Trustee Calvert that **the Board of Trustees approves the Master Services Agreement with Progressus Therapy, LLC for Education and Education-Related Services for the placement of up to 45 social workers in schools.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

3. Legislative Items

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

Lindsay Anderson, Director of Government Affairs, provided a presentation on the 2021 Nevada Legislative Session and bills impacting the Washoe County School District. The District's bill, Assembly Bill (AB) 57, was approved and signed by Governor Sisolak.

Trustee Nicolet asked what the next steps in the process were since the Legislative Session was over and the upcoming redistricting process. Ms. Anderson indicated staff would work to review District policies and procedures against new legislation. The redistricting process would begin once the District received final population numbers from the federal government.

4. Budget Items

4.01 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE DISTRICT'S FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 AMENDED FINAL BUDGET FOR ALL DISTRICT FUNDS; UPDATE ON STATE FUNDING AND THE NEW PUPIL CENTERED FUNDING PLAN; CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO THE SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF ON THE BUDGET; AND APPROVAL OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 AMENDED FINAL BUDGET

The Board of Trustees received a presentation on the amended final budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22. A comparison with prior fiscal years was provided and included information on the changes between the Board approved budget and the amended final budget, which was based on final legislation approved during the 2021 Nevada Legislative Session.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

D. Anderson requested the District provide a clearer breakdown of how all District Offices were funded, as well as their associated departments. She would also like the budgets for the schools to be more transparent.

George Lee thanked staff for the in-depth budget presentation. He mentioned the District should be cautious because of the rising inflation rate.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Minetto that **the Board of Trustees approves the Amended Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22**. The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

4.02 DISCUSSION, PRESENTATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTIONS 21-010, 21-011, 21-012, 21-013, 21-014, 21-015, 21-016, 21-017, AND 21-018, RESOLUTIONS TO AUGMENT THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 BUDGET, AND APPROVAL OF AUGMENTATION AND TRANSFERS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 BUDGET

The Office of Business and Finance reviewed the Board Resolutions associated with the final budget augmentation for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

George Lee requested additional information on how the average mean attendance was counted in the schools.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Minetto that **adopts Washoe County School District Board Resolutions 21-010, 21-011, 21-012, 21-013, 21-014, 21-015, 21-016, 21-017, and 21-018, Resolutions to Augment the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget and approves budget transfers as proposed.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

President Taylor recessed the meeting for 15 minutes.

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

5.01 APPROVAL OF INCREASE TO OWNERS' CONTINGENCY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,133,000 FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,458,000 FOR THE GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE (GMP) #4 OF THE NEW COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL AT WILDCREEK, CMAR #C-61600A, FOR OFF SITE IMPROVEMENTS

Adam Searcy, Chief Facilities Management Officer, explained why the District was requesting an increase to the Owners' Contingency Account for the new Procter R. Hug High School located at Wildcreek.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Darla Lee expressed frustration that the presentation referred to "unforeseen" issues. She noted she, and many other community members, had raised various concerns regarding the location of the proposed school, especially related to the safety of students going to and from school.

George Lee stated all the sidewalks in the surrounding area of the new Procter R. Hug High School should be widened.

Pablo Nava Duran remarked that he was hopeful the new athletic facilities would be similar to those at Damonte Ranch High School so they could be used as a regional facility, since Wildcreek was a more central location.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Taylor that **the Board of Trustees approves the increase to owners' contingency in the amount of \$1,133,000 for a total of \$1,458,000 for the guaranteed maximum price (GMP) #4 of the New Comprehensive High School at Wildcreek, CMAR C-61600A, for Off Site Improvements.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Jeff Church, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

5.02 INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION TO UPDATE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON MENTAL WELLNESS SUPPORTS INCLUDING THE USE OF, AND POTENTIAL USE OF, TELEHEALTH IN THE DELIVERY OF MEDICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS FOR STUDENTS IN THE WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Board of Trustees received a presentation on mental wellness supports provided to students, including the use of telehealth in the District.

President Taylor recessed the meeting for 30 minutes. Trustee Jeff Church was not present when the meeting reconvened.

President Taylor pulled Agenda Item 5.03, Review of COVID-19 case counts, as there was no new information to be presented to the Trustees.

5.04 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AFFIRM THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE GROUP INSURANCE COMMITTEE FOR A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE RATE INCREASE OF 0% FOR PLAN YEAR 2022 AND A BENEFIT CHANGE TO MOVE PREVENTATIVE DENTAL SERVICES OUTSIDE OF THE CALENDAR YEAR MAXIMUM FOR A \$100,000 COST TO THE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN

Jackie James, Risk Manager, presented why the District, through the Group Insurance Committee, was recommending a 0% increase to health plan rates for the 2022 Plan Year and moving preventative dental services outside of the calendar year maximum.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees affirms the recommendation of the Group Insurance Committee for a group health insurance rate increase of 0% for the Plan Year 2022 and approves the movement of preventative dental services outside of the calendar year maximum.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

5.05 PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO PROVIDE DIRECTION TO THE SUPERINTENDENT ABOUT THE PROCESS TO ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS ON POSSIBLE CHANGES TO SCHOOL START TIMES FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

The Board of Trustees received a presentation on the process the District would use to engage stakeholders related to possible changes to school start times for the 2022-23 School Year. Six options would be presented to the community for review. It was important to note changes to school start times would have impacts to athletics and activities, before and after school care programs, individual school considerations, and family childcare or work options for older students.

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Pablo Nava Duran thanked the Board for the focus on student wellness as the reason for looking into changes to school start times. He believed any changes should occur at the start of the 2024-25 School Year.

The Board received an email from Rebecca Paris related to the agenda item.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Calvert that **the Board of Trustees directs the Superintendent to formulate an outreach plan that works with the individual schools to ensure every family is provided an opportunity to participate and provide feedback.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

5.06 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S NEW STRATEGIC PLAN "RESPONSE TO RECOVERY," A 2-YEAR ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS SYSTEM-WIDE ACADEMIC RECOVERY FROM A GLOBAL PANDEMIC, WHICH INCLUDES GOALS AND OBJECTIVES BASED ON IMPROVING CONDITIONS FOR LEARNING/RE-ENGAGEMENT; ACADEMIC RECOVERY/ACCELERATED LEARNING; AND MOVING TO THE COLLEGE/CAREER READINESS PATHWAY AND PROMISE OF A GRADUATE; WITH A PRESENTATION ON THE RESULTS FROM THE SURVEY ON THE DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN

The Board of Trustees was provided the survey results for the draft Strategic Plan, "Response to Recovery."

President Taylor opened the meeting to public comment.

Christine McAvoy expressed concern over the inclusion of “equity” in the Strategic Plan because it was directly related to the teaching of critical race theory in the schools, which she opposed.

Marika Moore urged the Trustees to conduct additional community outreach on the proposed Strategic Plan because she did not believe parents had enough time to review the document.

It was moved by Trustee Caudill and seconded by Trustee Minetto that **the Board of Trustees Board of Trustees approves the new Washoe County School District 2-Year Strategic Plan, “Response to Recovery.”** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jacqueline Calvert, Andrew Caudill, Ellen Minetto, Diane Nicolet, Angela Taylor, and Kurt Thigpen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

6. Reports

6.01 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

This item was not heard.

6.02 SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

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

7. Closing Items

7.01 PUBLIC COMMENT

Valeria Fiannaca thanked Trustee Caudill for his service to the District and wished him luck in the future. She spoke against the teaching of critical race theory in the schools and believed history should be taught accurately.

Lexi Deeter was a recent graduate of Galena High School. She urged the Board to be more inclusive in the Sexuality, Health and Responsibility Education (SHARE) curriculum by providing more information on LGBTQ+ topics. She was frustrated that LGBTQ+ students were not provided the same information as straight, cisgender students.

James Benthin wondered why the Board was continuing to enforce mask mandates when other governments were not.

Stephanie Olcamp expressed frustration that the Board would conduct surveys to gather input from parents and the community, then ignore the results if they were not

the same as what the Board and Superintendent wanted to do. She was referring to the survey regarding the supplemental materials for the K-5 curriculum and that the parents overwhelmingly opposed it, so the Board created a task force instead.

D. Anderson stated she did not believe the initial public comment period was removed to make the meetings more efficient but was a punitive response to those who disagreed with President Taylor.

Shannon Coley read from an article in *This is Reno!* She expressed her agreement with the tone of the article and that the District wanted to make the community members who disagreed with them feel ignored.

Marika Moore remarked there were workshops being held throughout Washoe County on how parents could remove their children from the District because of the mask mandate and teaching of critical race theory. She urged parents to participate.

Pablo Nava Duran remarked that he could not understand the objection to the supplemental materials because it was important to learn the good and bad in history.

The Board received emails from the following:

- Katie Stout
- July Cook
- April Ofria
- Sarah Pinkston
- Ava Beaupre
- Karen Kellison
- Constance Hanson
- Richard and Debroah Kerri
- Molly
- Kristen DeHaan
- R. Crumo
- Blair Speth
- Rachel Fisher
- Valerie White
- Darla Lee
- James Goodrich

7.02 **NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The next Regular Meeting would take place on Tuesday, July 27, 2021.

7.03 **ADJOURN MEETING**

There being no further business to come before the members of the Board, President Taylor declared the meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Angela D. Taylor, President

Ellen Minetto, Clerk

From: Katie Stout
Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 8:43 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Supplemental Curriculum

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials. We cannot afford to lose such important information for our students in Washoe County.

Thanks,



Katie Stout-Ithurralde, MBA

Program Director

Thrive Wellness Reno



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From: Judy Cook
Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 11:18 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Benchmark K-5 education program

Please retain this valuable education for our children (my grandchildren). It is so important to their ability to develop critical thinking skills. There is absolutely no sound reason to abandon these materials. Please don't bow to the pressure from opponents. Thank you.

Judy Cook

COOK & COMPANY LTD

Property Management Expert Services

- Consulting

- Education

- Expert Witness

- NV Broker & Property Manager B.15980

From: April Ofria
Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 1:02 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SOCIAL JUSTICE CURRICULUM

Only cowards fear education. Enact the SOCIAL JUSTICE CURRICULUM.

Where was this passion from our community when Core Math was enacted?

The majority of the opposition has nothing to do with education, racists are scared. This is needed.

This is way past due. If this does not go into effect, Intro, Physical and Cultural anthropology are amazing classes that should be taught in High School so we quit sending young ignorant people into a world they didn't create.

Thank you.

April

From: sarah pinkston
Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 2:06 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Curriculum

Hello Board,

Stop trying to sneak in curriculum that many have already stated we don't want taught to our children. You want to teach our children to be closed minded, well that's not how things work. You push this agenda and I forsee many students being pulled from public school and being home schooled. I DO NOT WANT MY CHILDREN TO BE TOLD HOW TO THINK.

Another thing, not all kids, most as a matter of fact, are college bound. Work on programs for the majority.

Thank you,
Sarah

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: Ava Beaupre
Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 3:23 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New Curriculum (Agenda Item 5.07)

Dear Board of Trustees,
My name is Ava Beaupre and i'm a freshman at reno high school.

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07**. To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said "**if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum**. The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education. Thank you for your time and consideration,
Ava Beaupre

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From:
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2021 12:40 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] K-5 curriculum

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Thank you for your consideration,
Karen Kellison

From: Constance Hanson
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2021 12:57 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] social justice supplement to K-5 WCSD curriculum

Dear Trustees,

I am writing in support of the proposed social justice supplement to the WCSD curriculum. As a former history teacher I am fully aware of how lacking most history/social studies curriculum materials are in presenting issues of race and injustice. Helping our students grasp how decades of unequal treatment and institutionalized barriers have impacted our fellow citizens is critical in helping them appreciate the work that needs to be addressed in this area. Truthfully, I am amazed that the need for this change is even coming into question.

Sincerely,

Constance Hanson

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”

– Anne Frank

From: Rich Kerri
Sent: Monday, June 21, 2021 3:47 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] social justice curriculum

Very simply, our family is opposed to this type of curriculum.

Richard and Deborah Kerri
Sparks 89441

From: Molly
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 12:33 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Custodian shortage

Good Afternoon,

While acknowledging your shortage and the importance of the job perhaps treating the custodians with respect would also be recommended. When you delay start school for weather have custodians come in early to avoid late night ice and bad weather, or if school is canceled allow them an earlier start time, and finally have professional staff, community groups and students clean up after themselves or at least assist and not be entitled persons above cleaning their own mess.

Just a few thoughts.

Molly

From:
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 2:43 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 1.04

Dear Trustees

I appreciate and support the fact that the opening public comment was removed. Public comment is not taken away. Public comment can be e-mailed. Public comment **is** important. It can be given during 7.01 or sent in via e-mail. It is important that the board has the agenda and is able to get through them. If people want to speak on specific agenda items, they can absolutely do that, every time.

Thank you,
Kristen De Haan

From:
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 2:59 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] General Public Comment

Dear School Board,

How is it that the Department of Equity and Diversity with 6 total employees, has a married couple working in that Department? While I have looked extensively at past Board minutes and could not locate where the Board approved (which is required as the form is to have been submitted by the Supervisor to the Board on which to vote), that is not to say the form and vote did not occur. Also, if an Administrative Assistant works for an Equity & Diversity Specialist, or visa versa, that is not allowed either. I'm not saying that there is any impropriety, yet in times where the Department of Equity & Diversity are sure to be in the limelight, any appearance of impropriety truly is unwise.

Once again this Board chooses to host the public that elected you on the front lawn of the WCSD Greenhouse building and refuse to provide reasonable accommodations per the NRS. Once again you require devices of submission when the numbers of COVID cases do not justify or warrant such. The aforementioned decisions reek of the contempt held for the public. While attempting to silence the public, what this board has unknowingly done by bringing such increasing and dramatic attention to itself is increase the numbers of people becoming aware of how out of control the WCSD and Board has become.

The numbers and opposition are growing. Surely your next move will be to begin reducing the amount of time the public can speak as the public speaking out has become an obvious inconvenience. Much like "reasonable accommodations", the NRS Open Meeting Laws do not state a time amount allotted for each public speaker. Each time Ms. Taylor attempts to ingratiate herself to the public by stating the Board generously gives a time allotment of 3 minutes when the NRS says 2 minutes, it simply makes everyone aware that she must not have read the NRS regarding Open Meeting Laws as it says "reasonable".

Sincerely,
R Crump

https://www.wcsdpolicy.net/pdf_files/4111_1%20Reg%20-%20Regulation%20of%20Nepotism.pdf

https://www.wcsdpolicy.net/pdf_files/board_policy/4505-Policy-Standards_of_Conduct-v2.pdf

<https://www.washoeschools.net/cms/lib/NV01912265/Centricity/Domain/212/4530%20Reg%20-%20Ethical%20Standards.pdf>

From:
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 3:19 PM
To: Public Comments; McNeill, Kristen
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2.15

I appreciate all social workers in the schools. I have seen how helpful they can be. We have so many students in our district. Many of our counselors are overwhelmed with their caseloads. Social workers are incredibly helpful to have in our schools.

-Kristen De Haan

From: Blair Speth
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 3:31 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] You should be ashamed

Importance: High

Washoe County School Board Members:

You should be ashamed. Taking initial public comment from the agenda for the 6/22 board meeting is unacceptable. It is a real problem when WE THE PEOPLE are not allowed to petition our government for change. I'm sure that you don't like staying at the district office until 1AM for board meetings, but I do not care about your feelings. If you would do your job of educating children instead of playing political games, maybe you would not have to hear from irate community members and parents for four hours prior to meetings. During the past year and a half you have failed from a policy standpoint. Hiring Kristin Mcneill was by far the worst thing that has ever happened to education in this county. In her first chance to show leadership she bawled before the entire community. This was followed by district policy robbing our children of four months of instruction at the end of the 2020 school year with bad policy. 2021 had the district putting our children through a farce of a school year that many will probably recover from. Instead of doing your jobs and focusing on education, you were using a pandemic as cover while you tried to fundamentally change the way education is provided with all of your equitydiversity and anti-racist agenda. Clever words, but we all know that they are just radical talking points that have no place in education. I don't know how you hateful people sleep at night, I know I cant as I write this at 2.30AM.

Blair Speth

From:
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 5:00 PM
To: Public Comments; McNeill, Kristen
Subject: [EXTERNAL] general public comment (7.01)

Dear Trustees and Dr. McNeill,

I appreciate how important it is to try to get through important agenda items in a timely manner. I appreciate that when there are several hours of public comment prior to getting to agenda items, you are exhausted by the time they get to the items that need your full attention! As I stated earlier, I am glad there are other ways to share my public comment in the record. I was unable to attend today and am using the email option to do this.

To my recollection, prior to COVID, all board meetings were held in this same venue with seating in the room and in overflow rooms. If people are outside of the meetings, they can listen into the live stream on YouTube. That is what I have done previously. Then I can sit in my car if I don't want to sit in an overflow room. When the meetings were held at other schools, there were issues then as well. Nothing you all choose to do will please all people. Sometimes I am the person who isn't pleased (Damonte Ranch High School is WAY far away from where I live), but I get there when I need to.

I deeply appreciate how long not just you, but district staff as well, must stay when meetings go into the wee hours of the morning. I appreciate everyone for doing that. It was disappointing to me to hear Trustee Church vehemently state he would not stay past 6:30. Sometimes, even without ANY public comment (at 3.01 or 7.01), meetings go longer than 6:30. When I voted for Trustee Caudill, my belief was that he would attend meetings until they ended, not until he got tired. I am also disappointed to hear Trustee Church say at every meeting that he is the new guy. He doesn't fully understand xyz. With all due respect, it has been more than 6 months since you were sworn in as a trustee. My hope would be that you would have a better understanding by this point.

Many public commenters have talked about the survey that was taken about the extra questions in Benchmark Advance. While 84% of those who responded to the survey disagreed with adding the questions, only 2% of adults responded if we look at just one parent/guardian per student responding (based on 62,000 students). If we look at all adults in Washoe County (357, 214 adults), it is .4% who are against the extra questions. Not even 1%.

I would have been overjoyed had the Benchmark Advanced additional questions been approved to be added at the last meeting. I am okay with there being a task force to discuss questions that can be added. What I know is that Critical Race Theory is not being taught at any school I've been in and what would have been taught in the 4 units with the one to four extra questions would not be that it is bad to be white or that if you are white you are racist. And for people who are upset about being told they have privilege (again, not something being taught in schools), I would like to state that privilege is not trying to say that you haven't had a challenging, hard, or difficult life. It doesn't mean you haven't worked hard to get where you are. It means the challenges have not been made more difficult due to the color of your skin, your gender, or your sexuality.

In closing I would like to say a special word of thanks to Trustee Caudill. Trustee Caudill, I appreciate how willing you always are to listen to your constituents, to answer questions we have, to tell us why you think one thing or another. You are always respectful. You always have the students well-being in the forefront of your decisions. I appreciate you very much and will miss your voice as my Trustee.

I wish you the best of luck in your next adventure.

Thank you for reading my comments.

Respectfully,

Kristen De Haan

recently past parent (I am so proud of my AACT graduate! He graduated with his CTE certificate and honors diploma)
and community member

From: Rachel Fisher
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 5:34 PM
To: Public Comments; publiccomment@wahooschools.net
Subject: [EXTERNAL] General Public Comment, 6/22 Meeting of the BOT

Dear Board of Trustees,

I am submitting general public comment today to commend the decision from board leadership to remove the initial public comment portion of our school board meetings and moving general public comment to the end of the agenda.

As recent school board meetings have been consumed by hours of initial public comment, the result has been that many community members who wish to speak on a specific agenda item have had their voices drowned out or are effectively prohibited by the incredibly long hours and late nights.

I applaud this proactive step in re-focusing on the actual agenda items that deserve the full attention of the board while also ensuring that all community members have the ability to share their input.

I feel that this is a great step towards returning WCSD board of trustees meetings back to productive and respectful discourse with the community. Thank you for taking this action.

Thank you,
Rachel Fisher

From: V W
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 5:37 PM
To: Church, Jeffrey; Minetto, Ellen; Caudill, Andrew B; Thigpen, Kurt L; Taylor, Angela; Calvert, Jacqueline M; Nicolet, Diane M; Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Public Comment for WCSD Board Meeting 6/22/2021 at 5:24pm

After seeing and hearing of Board President Angela Taylor's and Legal Counsel Rombardo's actions to physically remove public commenters from today's board meeting, I am requesting an UNEDITED copy of the entire WCSD Board Meeting of 6/22/2021 including all public comment and all comments made by board trustees. This request is being made as emailed public comment, so it will appear on the record. The public has been assured by Trustee Taylor that emailed public comments will be read by trustees as the meeting progresses. I will also pursue a Freedom of Information Act request to the WCSD legal department for the entire UNEDITED meeting's recording.

For the record, editing out portions of the meeting's events, including comments and actions by board trustees and legal counsel, and portions after the meeting as begun, is illegal.

For the record, legal counsel is not an elected official and may not participate in board affairs as an elected trustee. When Rombardo initiates remarks when not requested by trustees, he is assuming powers that he does not have. He needs to sit at the dais silently, and on the extremities of the dais, and speak only when spoken to. Public commenters are not addressing him or asking for his response to any issues. Public comments are made to board trustees and the superintendent.

On 6/15, during public comment, I reminded Rombardo of his duties as legal counsel, and reminded him that his presence and ability to speak is only permissible when a trustee requests his legal opinion. At today's 6/22/2021 WCSD Board Meeting, Rombardo again interjected without any trustee requests.

A formal complaint regarding his professional duties will be made if Rombardo continues to interject when he is not legally entitled to speak.

Valerie White
Reno Resident

From: Rebecca Pairis
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 5:54 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Update Start Times for Students

I believe that updating the start times for students is an important issue that should be considered. The start time that we currently have just does not align with the age groups. Elementary school kids should be starting earlier, and middle school and high school should have a later start time. My middle school student must be at school by 7:15 am and it is a battle getting him up and ready by that time. Middle school is when many students are growing and experiencing many changes. Sleep is important in this development.

Many parents work and streamlining start times can help parents make sure that their students are getting to school on time. Some of the students that I work with have chronic tardiness and absenteeism because they just cannot make it to school on time with such early start times. Elementary school students should start school around 8:30 am and middle school and high school should have a start time around 9:00 am. Elementary aged kids are usually up earlier as they may have an earlier bedtime, while middle school and high school students often have a later bedtime. Older students also have more commitments such as sports, jobs, and a larger workload so this also contributes to later bedtimes.

With later starts time understandably they will get out later, but this can also help alleviate the amount of money parents need to spend on afterschool care. We should also be getting rid of early release on Wednesday, I do not see this as being constructive.

With everything that has happened over the past year and a half and many students falling behind we need to make sure that we are making the necessary adjustments to help our kids be more successful.

From: Darla A. Lee
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 7:07 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] General Public Comment

Board Members,

The concerned citizens of Washoe Co. are entitled to know specific information about "achievement gap", "unconscious bias" and "systemic barriers", (all on your website) which are the excuses for pushing the current "equity and inclusive" education. What are the exact cases experienced in the Washoe Co. School District? What is the precise meaning of "students of diverse backgrounds vs. average students"? What about "students of color performing at lower levels than average students nationwide"? The fact is that white students (if that is what is meant by average students compared with students of color) are also performing poorly nationwide.

The "Equity & Diversity" of WCSD, according to your website, uses The Equity Lens, which is adapted from Portland Pubic Schools--the same Portland considered the most liberal city in OR and which has allowed rioting and destruction of businesses for most of last year. I do not think that Portland should be the go-to example for true equity or diversity! Instead of a new task force for examining the Benchmark curriculum, put together a task force like the 1776 Commission which would insure that students receive a balanced education, one that does not white wash America's mistakes (slavery, etc.) but also does not view history through the lens of equity, i.e. Marxist doctrine. Students should be taught about all the great things that America and her patriots have done along with the missteps and how we have continued to correct them, i.e. Civil Rights Laws, etc.

Every parent has the right to know what is being taught to their children, that means making all lessons plans, reading lists, etc. available to the parents. The teaching of civics should not be morphed into "Action Civics", where students are indoctrinated into being activists for a particular agenda-right or left. as in the changes to BP4500,

Sincerely,
Darla Lee
Sparks, NV

From:
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 7:36 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Curriculum:

Social justice, culturally responsive teaching, or any other variant of Critical Race Theory is nothing, but racist propaganda. In the 1930's, socialist Germany imposed such a curriculum in their government schools targeting Jews. They accused Jews of doing all kinds of bad things, accused Jews of stealing land/wealth, and claimed Jews had no claim to the nation they lived in.

Shortly after the German socialists imposed CRT in their school system, Jews were banned from public pools, parks, and so on. Not long after that, Jews were forced from their homes in the name of redistribution of wealth, and economic justice. Then, not long after than, came the trains to the death camps.

History has shown us the end result of the curriculum you are considering (against the will of 84% of the people). Please reject CRT in all of its forms.

Thank you, James G. Proud Parent.

WCSD Board Meeting 6-22-2021

2.08

Name, Former K-12 Teacher

Thanks to the Superintendent McNeil and President Taylor attempting to push their personal political ideology on 64,000 students in the District our Private Facebook Page – Protect Nevada Children - is up to 1,200 members

When it comes to protecting Student Data Pearson Education is the worst vendor out there.

GOOGLE - Pearson Education Data Breaches - and you'll see what I mean.

In 2019 Pearson's Aims Web DATA BREACH affected WCSD students

- March 2019 The FBI told Pearson of the Student Data Breach
- April 2019 Clark County abruptly stopped using AimsWeb but WCSD continued to use AimsWeb – I believe until the end of the school year
- In July 2019 (FOUR months later) July (when schools out) Pearson decides to inform school Districts about the data breach.
- **WHY DO WE STILL PAY THIS VENDOR ANYTHING?**
- The class action Law-suit said Student ID numbers were breached. In Sept. 2019 in the lobby during this meeting, I asked Pearson representative if that was true, he didn't answer
- By the time the agenda item came up the Pearson rep. was gone, maybe he realized he couldn't defend the Data Breach and the

District would continue to spend money on things like K-12 Virtual School

- It took the CIO a couple weeks to even tell me what data the District shared about my kids with Pearson, and it was more than the District made public.
 - **PEARSON CAN'T BE TRUSTED – I'M NOT SURE WHY WE STILL PAY THEM.**
-

The last I knew our IT department has about 70 employees – probably costs over \$5,000,000 per year just for salaries.

The best they can do is continue to pay the worst vendor, when it comes to student privacy, as: **QUOTE “THE ONLY FULL DISTANCE LEARNING MODEL OPTION FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR!” END QUOTE**

How about severely cutting that department down to a few people, then using that money to hire 70 teachers, and get back to educating kids on the basics and NOT sitting them in front of screens for hours per day and calling it “education.” And while you are at, you could scrap the Critical Race Theory nonsense, that is dividing our community and teachers.

Questions – 1) Will the District educate parents on all the Data Breaches Pearson has already had?

2) Does the District know how Pearson’s past, and likely future data breaches, may affect the future of our students?

Time – No to both... PNC

WCSD Board Meeting 6-22-2021

2.13

Name – PNC

In the Board Docs there was talk of Grant Funding but it wasn't clear to me if the entire almost \$1,000,000 will be paid by a grant or not?

Either way - I found the Cyber Security Report card for DreamBox and the overall grade was a:

B-

But their Website Security grade was an:

F

Again, I'm not sure what the 70 people in your IT department do, and why most of them couldn't be replaced by teachers.

And while you are at it maybe the Equity and Diversity department could be replaced with additional teachers.

Dot Com executives, including Bill Gates and Steve Jobs severely limited their own children's screen time. Now many tech. executives, profiting from the devices and software they sell to school districts, send their own kids to schools that do not allow screens until high school (handout for board).

For several years I've still been waiting for this board to have the discussion of screens for education vs. traditional education. Most of the research shows screens diminish education performance and test scores, especially for younger students.

I provided this board with this information (handout for board) about what Dr. Kardaras said in his book Glow Kids: Quote "Screen addiction looks like drug addiction in the brain."

Less than a year later, some of you may remember when Jessica, a mother came in and spoke to the board. With her heart wrenching story about how her son (who at the time was a WCSD student) first became addicted to screens which

lead to a drug addiction and their need to get him treatment in an out of state treatment facility.

How many other kids, who's parents can't afford drug treatment has this District either gotten addicted to screens, or contributed to a screen addiction? Of those kids how many may be come addicted to drugs.

The District is giving kids screens in kindergarten in some schools, and requiring them to take screens home in second grade, in some schools.

In my opinion this board has a responsibility to understand how many kids have become addicted to screens because of the District's actions and what you will do about it!

Again what do the 70 people in the IT department do?

Please join about 1,200 of us on our Private FB page Protect Nevada Children.

WCSD Board Meeting 6-22-2021

2.15

Name, Former K-12 Teacher

One of the WCSD teachers told me a couple years:

QUOTE “If it wasn’t for all these screens we wouldn’t need so many social workers.” END QUOTE

Back to my previous point: “Is it too late to go back to simply educating students?”

Stop teaching math that would confuse Einstein. As you may realize none of the country’s that with top K-12 math scores will have changed to teaching Common Core math or as our state re-named CC to Nevada Academic Content Standards.

Please stop teaching controversial issues like:

- 1) Critical Race Theory
- 2) Revisionist history
- 3) Comprehensive Sex Education
- 4) Social and Emotional Learning
- 5) Quit trying to get inside all students heads. Focus those efforts on the kids that need it and EDUCATE EVERYONE.
- 6) I still remember when WCSD gave a psychological assessment to all the kids in four schools, WITHOUT parental consent. (hold up handout). The vendor has that data and most parents don’t even know you gave their kids the assessment.

As with everything these kids do online for their education we don't know, if, when, and how the data the dozens of third party "education" vendors our kids are forced to share data with, may come back and haunt them.

Instead, can we PLEASE FOCUS on educating children.

As someone said: QUOTE: "To get kids ready for the future give them a classical education." END QUOTE.

Teach them the three R's and how to effectively communicate, and how to think, not WHAT to think. Quit trying to indoctrinate our kids.

This MAY be why we have Washoe County Students 4 Change.

In the 18 consecutive years I've kids in WCSD schools I've seen the focus shift from education to all those things I mentioned above. Unfortunately, if we don't change direction, our state will continue to lag behind those that focus on, "**education instead of indoctrination.**"

Time - My child who graduated in 2016 went to an Ivy League school, my youngest who will graduate in 2023 did not get the same education our oldest child in the exact same schools.

BOARD MEMBERS - please focus on educating children, and do not allow superintendent McNeil and President Taylor to push their political ideology on 64,000 kids.

PNC – Private FB Page