

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

February 14, 2023

1. Opening Items

1.01 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 2:05 p.m. in the Board Room of the Central Administration Building, located at 425 East Ninth Street in Reno, Nevada.

1.02 ROLL CALL

President Beth Smith and Board Members Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley were present. Deputy Superintendent Seng-Dao Yang Keo and staff were also present. Superintendent Susan Enfield was present via video conference. Student Representative Ivy Batmale was not present at the time of roll call.

1.03 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Consent Agenda Items

President Smith pulled Consent Agenda Item 2.12, Approval of the Agreement with Addiction Treatment Technologies, LLC, DBA Care Solace, for additional discussion.

Trustee Church requested Consent Agenda Item 2.09, Approval of Change Order #1 to Bid #23-09-B-08-DA, Demolition and Abatement of Various Buildings at Debbie Smith Career and Technical Education (CTE) Academy High School, and Consent Agenda Item 2.20, Review of the "Annual Charter School Performance Monitoring" & Updated Bylaws for Sierra Nevada Academy Charter School, be pulled for additional discussion.

It was moved by Trustee Woodley and seconded by Trustee Rodriguez that **the Board of Trustees approves Consent Agenda Items 2.02 through 2.08, 2.10, 2.11, and 2.13 through 2.19.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

- 2.02 The Board of Trustees approved the minutes of the December 13, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- 2.03 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-25-B-12-AA, TSI Pipe Insulation Abatement at Archie Clayton Middle School, to Sullivan Structures LLC in the amount of \$136,685.
- 2.04 The Board of Trustees approved Renewal #1 of Request for Bid (RFB) #054-06-01-21, Certain Standard and Custom Pleated Air Filters, to Air Filter Sales and Service for an estimated amount of \$162,737.65 for an additional 1 year term beginning March 31, 2023 and ending March 30, 2024.
- 2.05 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-26-B-12-DA, Roof Replacement for Sections B, B2, C, C2, C3 and Y2 at Sparks High School, to D & D Roofing and Sheet Metal, Inc. in the amount of \$1,447,171.
- 2.06 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-30-B-01-AA, Replacement of Cabinets in Ceramic Room at Robert McQueen High School, to Simerson Construction LLC in the amount of \$166,390.
- 2.07 The Board of Trustees approved the Agreement to Provide Professional Consultant Services to Benchmark, Inc. for Construction Inspection for 2023 Roofing Replacement Projects in the amount of \$307,582.
- 2.08 The Board of Trustees acknowledged receipt of notification of declared emergency repairs pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes 332.112 and 338.011(2), contracts related to emergency, for the flood water mitigation work and repair of building wall assemblies and related damages at the South Transportation Training Facility at an estimated cost of \$100,000.
- 2.10 The Board of Trustees approved the application to the Nevada Department of Education to allow Washoe County School District students who are taking "Principals of Health Science" to receive academic health credit.
- 2.11 The Board of Trustees approved the Alternative Schedule for 45-minute weekly early release for all schools with the exception of North Star Online School (a distance education school that does not operate under minutes) and authorized Student Accounting staff to complete and submit the "Application to Operate on an Alternative Schedule" to the Nevada Department of Education.

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- 2.13 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-29-B-12-DA, Repair of Roof Support Columns and Concrete Slabs at Incline Elementary School, to Don M. Lazorko Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$340,320.
- 2.14 The Board of Trustees approved the charter performance monitoring for ACE Charter High School for 3 years.
- 2.15 The Board of Trustees approved the Charter Performance Monitoring for Bailey Charter School, with stipulations that the charter school continue with quarterly monitoring in the areas indicated within the performance monitoring report.
- 2.16 The Board of Trustees approved the "Annual Charter School Performance Monitoring" for Coral Academy of Science Charter School.
- 2.17 The Board of Trustees approved the Charter Performance Monitoring for enCompass Academy Charter High School.
- 2.18 The Board of Trustees approved the Charter Performance Monitoring for High Desert Montessori Charter School.
- 2.19 The Board of Trustees approved the Charter Performance Monitoring as compliant for Mariposa Language & Learning Academy Charter School.
- 2.09 **APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER #1 TO BID #23-09-B-08-DA, DEMOLITION AND ABATEMENT OF VARIOUS BUILDINGS AT DEBBIE SMITH CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL, TO INTEGRATED DEMOLITION AND REMEDIATION, INC. FOR \$695,986.44**

Tami Zimmerman, Chief Facilities Management Officer, explained the change order was related the abatement of various building at the Debbie Smith Career and Technical Education (CTE) Academy High School. As Integrated Demolition and Remediation (IDR) went through the buildings, they discovered asbestos in various areas, such as ceilings and foundations, which they had been unable to inspect initially because there were students and staff on campus.

Trustee Church expressed concern the District had not planned for asbestos due to the age of the buildings. He asked if the District believed there would be any additional costs associated with asbestos for the project. Ms. Zimmerman remarked the change order would complete the demolition side of the contract. She provided additional information on the purpose of having an owners' contingency as part of construction contracts.

Trustee Westlake felt it would be important to the District to include mitigation efforts into contracts on older buildings moving forward. She believed it was critical to account for asbestos costs ahead of time when looking at renovations or demolitions to older buildings.

Trustee Church requested additional information on the 50/50 cost split. Ms. Zimmerman indicated there were some areas included as part of the initial contract with IDR, so the District was not required to pay for those areas.

It was moved by Trustee Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Mayberry that **the Board of Trustees approves Change Order #1 to Bid #23-09-B-08-DA, Demolition and Abatement of Various Buildings at Debbie Smith Career and Technical Education (CTE) Academy High School, to Integrated Demolition and Remediation, Inc. for \$695,986.44.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

2.12 APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH ADDICTION TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES, LLC, DBA CARE SOLACE TO ACCESS MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT PROVIDERS USING GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY EDUCATION RELIEF (GEER) II SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM FUNDS FOR \$152,500

President Smith requested additional information on how the District learned about the Care Solace program. Superintendent Enfield explained she had known of the program for a couple of years. She had recently heard of the successes both Churchill County School District and Clark County School District were having with the program. When she was considering partnering with organizations, she always wanted to know if the organization would fulfill a need in the District and if the organization had success in other school districts in the state. She brought Care Solace in to provide information on their services not only for the District, but also provide information on what the program could provide to the entire community. If the initial pilot program was successful, she believed many community partners would be interested in collaborating with the District on funding the program moving forward.

Trustee Westlake agreed with the need to address mental health issues in the District. However, she was concerned about a provision in the contract that allowed the District to act as the parent, provide personal identifiable information (PII), and allow for the collection of data. She believed the parents should be the primary advocate for the students. Dr. Paul LaMarca, Chief Strategies Officer, mentioned PII was directory information and was allowed to be distributed under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Care Solace was designated under FERPA as a District

representative, but the District still planned to contact the parent/guardian regarding providing PII. Information was collected to best meet the needs of the student or staff member with available providers. His understanding was the information was not used for any other purpose or shared with anyone else. The typical pathways students accessed the services were through direct requests from the parents/guardians or if a school counselor felt there was a need. If a counselor believed a student should utilize the program, they would contact the parent/guardian prior to accessing the system and completing some of the initial informational questions on behalf of the student.

Trustee Westlake requested clarification on if that meant the counselor would only "seek" approval or if the parent had to provide consent. Dr. LaMarca indicated the District would not input any information into the Care Solace program without receiving active parent consent first. A parent/guardian would not be required to come into a building and sign a form, but the school would contact the parent/guardian and provide information on what questions would be asked, then a representative from Care Solace would likely contact the parent/guardian to get additional information.

Trustee Church asked what the "GEER" money was and where it was coming from. Lauren Ohlin, Director of Grants, explained GEER was the Governor's Emergency Education Relief fund, which was separate from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund. The GEER II funds were dedicated for school mental health services.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

Margaret Martini agreed with Trustee Westlake's concerns regarding Care Solace acting as a parent. She requested the contract language be changed before the Board approved the agreement, especially after the information provided by staff as part of the discussion. She emphasized that including language that allowed the District to act as the parent's agent was inappropriate and that the District should **never** act as the parent's agent unless the District had specific written approval from the parent. She was also concerned with information being collected on students because there were no real protections related to student information and data. She wanted assurances the District knew what data was being collected and who had access to the data.

John Eppolito agreed with Trustee Westlake and Ms. Martini. He claimed there had been instances where the District's information had been stolen and student data sold on the dark web or to China and the District never informed the parents. He believed the Board had not received accurate information from staff because his understanding of the proposed agreement allowed Care Solace to share data with others. He claimed staff had provided similar misinformation related to student data to the Board in the past related to other vendors. He believed staff members were not honest with Trustees because they were only looking out for their jobs and not the best interests of

the students. He wondered if information shared with school counselors was stored in Infinite Campus because that information was never deleted and no one knew how it would be used in the future. He urged the Board to at least table the item until they were provided additional information on who Care Solace would share student information with.

Superintendent Enfield emphasized it was inappropriate to call out specific staff members during public comment and she knew the staff member mentioned cared deeply about the well-being of students in the District. She understood the privacy concerns raised and stated the District was working to address those concerns. However, it was important to balance the concerns with providing more opportunities for students and staff to receive the supports they needed.

President Smith asked if the proposed agreement with Care Solace had been reviewed by all appropriate departments and if it was in-line with the District's standard practices. Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, confirmed the Office of General Counsel had reviewed the agreement and that it was consistent with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). The language was also consistent with similar agreements.

Trustee Mayberry requested clarification the agreement was for a trial period and what would happen after the end of the trial. Superintendent Enfield remarked she wanted to ensure the program met the needs of the District before signing a longer agreement. She noted there was some interest in broadening access to the program for the community and creating a sustainable funding source with community partners.

Trustee Westlake indicated she was interested in seeing an additional review of the agreement to establish additional trust with members of the community.

It was moved by Trustee Westlake and seconded by Trustee Church that **the Board of Trustees continues the item to a future meeting until the third paragraph on page 4 is rewritten to state the parent is the primary advocate for the student with Care Solace.**

President Smith opened the motion for discussion.

President Smith stated she would be voting no on the motion because she believed the language in the agreement was appropriate and did not negate the authority of the parents. She agreed with the sentiment but wanted to ensure the professionals in the schools had the ability to act when needed.

Trustee Church understood the language already included as legal; however, he would like to see additional language confirming the parents were the primary advocates.

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

It was moved by Trustee Nicolet and seconded by Trustee Woodley that **the Board of Trustees approves the Agreement with Addiction Treatment Technologies, LLC, DBA Care Solace to access mental health treatment providers using Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) II School-Based Mental Health Professional Program Funds for \$152,500 and directs the Superintendent to provide monthly updates to the Board.** The result of the vote was 5-2: (Yea: Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, and Alex Woodley. Nay: Jeff Church and Colleen Westlake.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

Student Representative Ivy Batmale arrived at the meeting at 2:56 p.m.

2.20 **REVIEW OF THE "ANNUAL CHARTER SCHOOL PERFORMANCE MONITORING" & UPDATED BYLAWS FOR SIERRA NEVADA ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL AND TO MAKE A FINDING WHETHER THE SCHOOL IS COMPLIANT WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ITS CHARTER AGREEMENT**

Stacey Cooper, Coordinator of Extended Studies and Charter School Oversight, read a statement on behalf of Sierra Nevada Academy Charter School (SNACS) since the principal was unable to attend the meeting. The statement provided additional information on the recent expansion of SNACS to include high school grade levels and the challenges of adding the grades during the pandemic. SNACS served 15 high school students across 3 grade levels. Concerns raised during the Annual Performance Monitoring Audit were addressed in the statement, including SNACS submitting curriculum information in a timely manner for the audit to be completed and the number of students who were credit deficient at the end of the first semester. Ms. Cooper noted SNACS utilized Brigham Young University (BYU) On-Line Studies Program for some of their high school curriculum, which did not directly translate into the Infinite Campus system. The On-Line Program was also on a different semester timeline, which ended later than the Washoe County School District. The District noted in the audit SNACS was minimally compliant in the area of concern regarding high school academic performance because the school was making changes to either improve their high school curriculum or no longer offer high school grade levels.

Trustee Church asked if the item could be postponed until the District was able to complete the review. Ms. Cooper stated the District's timelines for charter school monitoring were dictated by Nevada Revised Statutes and Nevada Administrative Code and the reports were due by the end of February.

Trustee Church wondered why the District's recommendation was to approve the report as compliant when the information related to academic performance showed the school was minimally compliant. Ms. Cooper indicated the District's performance monitoring team had determined SNACS was minimally compliant. She was hopeful the Board would find the school compliant, but understood the concerns raised by the Trustees prior to the meeting and could agree with a decision to change the report to show minimal compliance.

It was moved by Trustee Church and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees approves the "Annual Charter School Performance Monitoring" as minimally compliant for Sierra Nevada Academy Charter School.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

3. Financial Items

3.01 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDED BIENNIAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2023-24 AND 2024-25 AND A PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF IMPACTS ON K-12 FUNDING

Mark Mathers, Chief Financial Officer, and Jeff Bozzo, Budget Director, provided a presentation on the District's analysis of the Governor's Recommended Budget, specifically related to K-12 funding. Highlights of K-12 funding included in the Governor's Budget were significant increases to base per pupil and weighted per pupil funding, with a 16% increase in Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) and 5% in FY25; however, the State Special Education Funding remained flat. The seven areas of the Governor's Budget analyzed by the District were reviewed. Additional information was provided on if the level of state funding for K-12 matched state revenues, which the District believed was the intent behind the creation of the Pupil Centered Funding Plan (PCFP). The District felt the amount of revenues transferred should be calculated based on actual revenues. The Education Stabilization Account was explained. The Governor's Budget showed the Pupil Center Funding Plan (PCFP) model was working as intended and there were likely additional opportunities for other enhancements to school funding prior to the end of the Legislative Session. Based on the initial analysis, the District's base per pupil funding should increase from \$7,318 to around \$8,879, which was a 21% increase to base per pupil funding. However, the increased revenue did not account for decreasing enrollment numbers.

Trustee Church asked if staff had an idea of how much the Governor's Budget would change as part of the legislative process. Mr. Mathers indicated there was no way of

knowing at the present time. The District would know more after the Economic Forum in May.

Trustee Church wondered if the District was going to remain at the bottom of funding with the PCFP and if the District should advocate for possible changes to the PCFP. Mr. Mathers noted there would be a significant increase to the per pupil amounts and some of the weighted categories. The PCFP was working as school districts had hoped. The concern the District had was with the cost of education equity adjustment because that had not appropriately accounted for the cost of living in Washoe County. The District would still remain near the bottom in the state unless that metric were revised.

Trustee Church requested clarification on if the District could use the funds under the weighted categories for personnel raises. Mr. Mathers explained the funds from the weighted categories could not be used to provide salary increases to employees funded under the District's General Fund. Funds under the weighted categories could be partially used to pay for raises for those personnel budgeted under the categories.

Trustee Mayberry expressed concern that the special education funding remained flat under the Governor's Recommended Budget. He wondered if the proposed increases would bring per pupil funding in Nevada closer to the national average. Mr. Mathers remarked that even with the increases, the decades of underfunding left Nevada's per pupil amount over \$4,000 less than the national average. The proposed budget should add about \$1,500 to the general per pupil amount, but that would still not bring Nevada to the average. The increased funding would help school districts, but it would not solve all the challenges decades of underfunding had created, such as low salaries and large classroom sizes.

President Smith asked how the Board should move forward to develop a budget since they did not know the exact numbers. Mr. Mathers explained staff would create a tentative budget based on the knowns. While the final budget was due on June 8, local governments did have the ability to submit an amended final budget 30 days after the conclusion of a legislative session to allow for any changes.

Trustee Westlake wondered if two budgets could be prepared, one based on the knowns and the other based on what they think will happen. Mr. Mathers indicated the District prepared a budget based on knowns. It would be easier for the Board to adjust that budget either up or down after additional information was realized.

Trustee Mayberry asked if the District would work with the employee associations to determine what their spending priorities would be if the District were to receive additional revenue. Mr. Mathers remarked that the employee associations were also waiting to see what the final numbers would be as well.

President Smith noted staff and the community would also be providing input on the new strategic plan. She felt that avenue would be the best way to determine what the priorities were for different groups related to the budget.

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

4.02 QUALITY OF EDUCATION – DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION OF SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT TO HIGHLIGHT THE SUCCESS OF THE STUDENTS ATTENDING DARREL C. SWOPE MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Board received a Quality of Education – School Spotlight presentation on Darrel C. Swope Middle School. Eva Lambert was named the Student Superstar because of her efforts to make the school better each day. Information on the Darrel C. Swope Middle School's vision and mission was presented, including perseverance, respect, organization, work ethic, and leadership. Staff members were encouraged to take risks to improve student learning in order to learn perseverance and fail forward. Staff spoke of the family atmosphere of the school for both students and staff, which created a community focused on making students more successful. Data on student demographics and performance was reviewed and information on the strategies used by educators to help improve student performance, improve attendance, increase student voice and choice, and support mental health was provided.

4.01 ADOPTION OF WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTION 23-001, A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 2023 AS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) MONTH

Josh Hartzog, Director of Career and Technical Education (CTE), provided information on CTE programming in the District. There were over 30 CTE programs, supported by around 100 teachers, throughout the District that were aimed at preparing students for work and/or careers and the next steps after high school.

It was moved by Trustee Woodley and seconded by Trustee Westlake that **the Board of Trustees adopts Washoe County School District Board Resolution 23-001, A Resolution recognizing February 2023 as Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Joe Rodriguez, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

President Smith recessed the meeting for 5 minutes.

5. Reports

5.01 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representative Ivy Batmale reported on activities related to the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council.

5.02 BOARD REPORTS

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

5.03 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

6. Closing Items

6.01 PUBLIC COMMENT

Bruce Foster expressed concern over the increased violence, drug abuse, pornographic under the guise of sex education, sexual aberration, gender confusion, wokeism, and cancel culture in schools. He urged the Board to take heed of history and promote transparency and total accountability.

Sandee Tibbett thanked Trustee Westlake for nominating Trustee Church for an officer position, even though he was not selected. She wondered by the School Police Chief did not address internal school threats related to gangs until questions were raised by Trustee Church. She read an email from Superintendent Enfield to Trustee Church where Dr. Enfield restricted his access to staff and claimed he was not acting in the best interests of the District. She requested the superintendent share what Trustee Church had done when he was not acting in the best interests of the District because not allowing him to speak to staff and represent his constituents should not be based on a feeling.

Nichelle Hull agreed with the comments made by Ms. Tibbett. She did not believe it was professional of the superintendent to censure Trustee Church in an email, especially since she embarrassed him by copying all his peers on the email. She claimed Trustee Church had the ability to contact whoever he wanted as part of his elected duties. She expressed disappointment in all the self-congratulating that had occurred and felt the priority should be focusing on preventing the violence in schools. She was also frustrated only two Trustees spoke in support of parents having the final voice for their children.

Andrea Thompson was a nurse practitioner and member of the Sexuality, Health and Responsibility Education (SHARE) Committee. She urged the Board to consider the recommendation from the Committee on changes to the 4th and 5th grade SHARE

curriculum. As a medical professional, she believed the current curriculum was extremely outdated and lacked information needed for children to navigate current society. She provided various reasons why the curriculum should be approved, which included information on consent, healthy relationships, and social media implications. She highlighted that the SHARE Committee had worked hard to put a curriculum together they believed was inclusive, helpful, and evidence based.

Adrian Lowry agreed with Ms. Thompson's comments. He urged the Board to approve the recommended curriculum. He understood why there were concerns; however, he felt it was critical to provide the information because it would provide support to students who identified as transgender who were being bullied by both students, families, and staff.

Erika Minaberry spoke in support of the Board approving the recommended SHARE curriculum for 4th and 5th grade students. She was frustrated because her daughter was transgender and continued to be bullied by students and their family members who were uneducated. She provided information on how comprehensive sex education had proven to be beneficial, and even lifesaving for students such as her daughter.

Jeff Church remarked there was another fight at a District high school. He agreed with Governor Lombardo that restorative discipline was a failure and changes had to occur. He cited Nevada Department of Education statistics that showed in the 2020-21 School Year, not one student from the Washoe County School District was expelled and only six students were expelled statewide. He reviewed some of the agenda items he had previously requested and urged another Trustee to second his requests. He expressed concern over requiring people who visited schools to sign paperwork stating they would not discuss anything they saw or heard. He believed that requirement was unacceptable because there was an obligation to report illegal activity.

Alex Milham spoke in support of the Board hearing the 4th and 5th grade sex education curriculum. She believed students needed to have information on healthy relationships and treating their peers with respect, to include their trans peers.

Tyler Pacheco spoke in support of the recommended sex education curriculum. He mentioned one of the main causes of bullying of LGBTQ+ students was because the bully did not know what LGBTQ+ was. He felt it was important to teach younger students that what they or others were feeling was normal. It was also important to teach elementary aged students about sexual abuse since at that age it was more likely a family member was committing the abuse.

Elle Hamann was a student in the District. She urged the Board to look at providing additional protection for students as bus stops because there was no one to protect the students from bullying there. She also advocated for additional security on the buses

because the bus drivers were not always able to see what was happening in the back of the bus. She spoke of her experience being bullied because she was transgender.

The Board received emails from the following:

Eugene Columbus

Linda Herrick

Jeff Bouma

Mon Bertolucci

6.02 **NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

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

6.03 **ADJOURN MEETING**

There being no further business to come before the members of the Board, President Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Elizabeth Smith, President

Joseph Rodriguez, Clerk

From: gcolumbusnca
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 1:57 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] School Safety

School Safety:

I recently went to my granddaughter's high school for some business. I parked in an open area and proceeded to wander the property. I was the only person outside and wasn't sure where the main entrance was. After scouting the area, I finally found the entrance and walked right in. There was a group of students right inside the immediate area. I was able to proceed anywhere I wanted without question.

My point is: If I was an active shooter then right off the bat this would have been politicized. There's a superintendent that makes over \$300,000 a year. There are principles, assistant principles and other administrative staff in each school along with school police. Take charge of your areas and secure your buildings. I should never have been allowed to drift the property and walk inside without a challenge. When you look at the basics, this is more a local issue than a political national matter.

Eugene Columbus
Washoe Valley, NV

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S8 Active, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: Linda
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023 1:05 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WCSD teacher salaries: Increase needed to recruit / retain qualified teachers

Dear Board Members,

I am aware that WCSD has a shortage of licensed teachers in our classrooms. WCSD may wish for quality and innovative programs for students. No matter what the good intentions are, WCSD will Not be able provide quality education until all teacher's pay is substantially increased so we can recruit and retain excellent teachers.

Thank you for considering my comment in your decision making.
Linda Herrick
Washoe County Resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: Jeff Bouma
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023 6:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I am forwarding this comment in response to a nextdoor app discussion re: school safety in Washoe valley I hope it helps.

While I understand and appreciate the heightened awareness and fear of sick people accessing schools when they are in session, how is it any different from the risks children are exposed to going to the grocery store, a concert or any of the other venues crazy people have shot up?

While I agree that there should be reasonable security measures taken, such as fencing and limited access points that are monitored and that these should vary depending on the type of school and the age of the students, we need to accept that America is now a very dangerous place because of the choices we have made and the priorities we have. Like Dan, I grew up hunting and no one ever thought it was unusual to see a gun and dog in a truck on campus during hunting season. Buck knives were common accessories and we had fights between students both at schools and at weekend parties. But no one thought of actually using one to settle a dispute or grievance. The NRA was invited to school each year for an evening course on hunter and gun safety. But that was a long time ago. The guns have proliferated, attained almost a sexualized fascination amongst many insecure people and the NRA just isn't what it was. The result is we have more mass murders than we have days in the year. We can't get away from it because we chose to make this a huge part of our world. Other countries made different choices and don't have these issues, but that is neither here nor there. So what do we do with this world we created for our kids and grand kids.

One thing we should not do is put more people with more guns into schools, especially if they are also LEOs. As Uvalde and many other active shooter incidents have confirmed, armed officers at schools will not improve safety or deter a suicidal person from acting out. Police are now trained that their #1 priority is to finish your shift alive, all other considerations are secondary. That is a big shift from the days of "To Protect and Serve" and it shows in the statistics related to armed officers at schools. Rather than making schools safer, the result is usually more children being confronted, arrested and put into the system for minor issues that would have been handled between the teacher, principle, students and parents.

I don't have an answer, nor do I discount the fear that is now pervasive in a large part of our society. All I would like people to do is to consider that this society took decades to create. It is the result of a myriad of unaddressed, underfunded and misunderstood issues. And there is no single, simple solution to it. It is very complex and will require the adults to start acting like adults and discuss these matters in depth, backed up by scientific studies, research and lots of civil community support. Party affiliation and slogans won't do anything. In fact, I would argue that our addiction to tribalism, conflict, bumper sticker slogans and crime shows where everything is solved in 22 minutes of screen time is at the root of our inability to make progress on this and other crucial issues that are literally can mean life or death. We need to start with respect for others positions, a willingness to listen even when we disagree and to funding actual studies of what kinds of threats exist and how they can be addressed. We don't know that because, believe it or not, the Congress has precluded federal agencies from collecting this kind of data. And even where it is required by law, many police departments refuse to collect the data. So government and school officials are just guessing at the causes, effects and solutions because they lack the data to make informed decisions. I want solutions that will work. To date, we don't have any.

I hope folks will take this in that spirit because I am tired of seeing parents being afraid to send the kids to school, to the store or movies. I am sick of funerals and excuses and finger pointing. I am sick of politicians claiming that there is a simple solution to all of this. So I want to thank Sarah for providing the link to the public comments email and I will be

using it. I hope others will as well and will take the time to respond respectfully and thoughtfully. While that is not necessarily in vogue right now, maybe that will be a 1st small step towards a solution. At least I have hope that it will.

Let's be careful out there!

Jeff Bouma

(602) 284-3063

BoumaLaw PLLC

Of Counsel to Moore Injury Law



MOORE INJURY LAW

"You Deserve More"

From: Mon Bertolucci
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 9:02 AM
To: Mon Bertolucci
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Update What Is Happening Washoe School District And New WCSD Superintendent's Plans
Attachments: Rebuttal Ed. Cruade.pdf

BASED ON THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION (SEE BELOW):

WCSD IS A TOTAL FAILURE

WCSD IS A TOTAL WASTE OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS

YOU DO NOT KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING

YOU ARE UNQUALIFIED

WHY DON'T YOU RESIGN TODAY?

From: Paul D. White <whitepauld@gmail.com> to School Board members and interested parents and taxpayers.

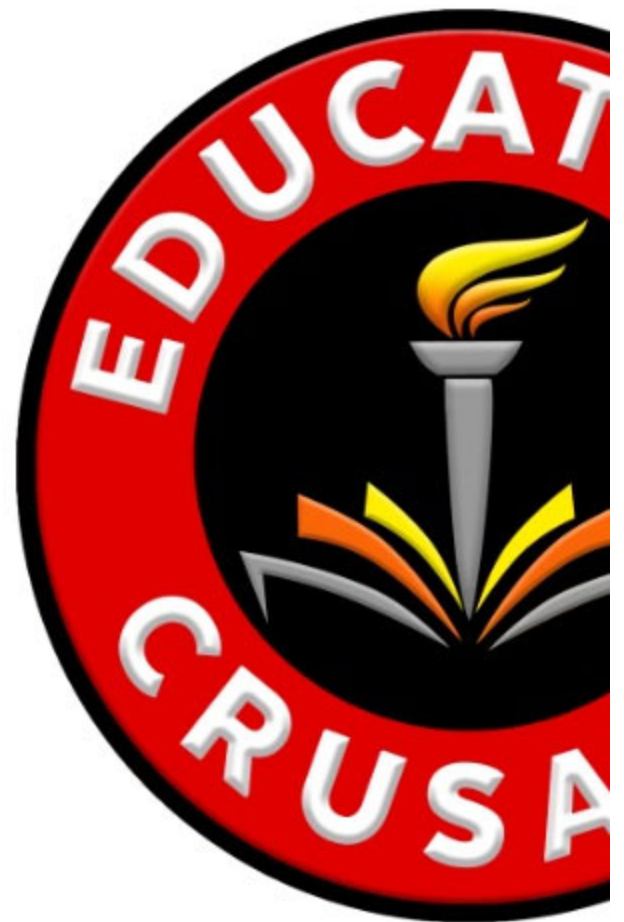
Please contact School Board members about concerns of information provided in email below. Please share with others.

Contact School Board members:

To: Church, Jeffrey@washoeschools.net; alex.woodley@washoeschools.net; Nicolet, Diane @ washoeschools.net; M, elizabeth.smith@washoeschools.net; adam.mayberry@washoeschools.net; joseph.rodriquez@washoeschools.net, colleen.westlake@washoeschools.net

Sun, Feb 5 at 4:06 PM

EXPOSING THE PROVIDING PROVE DEMANDING COURAGE



Confidential Hotline: (775) 685.8200 "What's Going On At YOUR School?"

9 Things We Learned About the

New WCSD Superintendent's Plans for Fixing Our Broken Schools

The following are 9 facts we learned last week about our new, **\$400,000 per year WCSD superintendent**. She shared this information in her "State of Education" speech that she presented at Herze Middle School. on February 2.

1) How is the Superintendent going to deal with up to 98% of our students failing their state and national tests?

"We are going to just stop testing them...and make up our own tests."

2) What hope did the supt. give for improving future student learning?

"We may NEVER get our students up to accomplishing at grade level... so we are just going to celebrate their relative improvement."

3) What did the superintendent say was her #1 Mission, to make sure our students get the quality education they need?

"I'm going to (memorize) the names and faces of all 60,000 of our students by the time they graduate."

4) How is the supt. going to deal with daily student assaults on teachers that have injured many of them so severely that they have not been able to return to work?

"I'm going to reflect on that problem." (?)

5) What did the supt. have to say about the fact that the past week's activity in our schools included: a stabbing, a gang beating,

a student's suicide/drug OD, and 2 gun-threat lockdowns in 3 days at one school?

Absolutely NOTHING

6) How did the Supt. respond to the DAILY issues of: student assaults on teachers, 40% in-school student drug use, violent fights, a 40% absence rate, and a functional illiteracy rate that ranges up to 98%?

ZERO specific acknowledgements or comments on any of them.

7) As a proclaimed highly trained education expert of 25 years, who is being paid \$400,00 per YEAR for what she knows, how is the supt. going to select her most important school goals?

"I'm opening an online chat-room for parents and the community, where they can talk with each other about what THEY think is important...and then I'll do what they choose."

8) Education Crusade has offered the supt. proven solutions that would IMMEDIATELY start to correct WCSD's problems with excessive student absences, out-of-control drug use, dangerously violent behavior, and low academic performance. She (and the School Board) have expressed NO interest in even hearing about these solutions. Did the supt. share this fact in her speech to the community?

NO.

9) The supt.'s closing words were: "WCSD schools are on the RISE!" Is that a true statement?

ONLY if the supt. was referring to the “rise” in absence rates, in-school drug use, teacher beatings, violence and gang activity, functional illiteracy rates, chaotic classrooms, and massive teacher resignations BECAUSE of her refusal to even acknowledge these issues.

(pdf version enclosed)

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From: Brian Erbis
Sent: Wednesday, February 1, 2023
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers; Washoe311
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The Student Walk Zone

Attn: WCSD, WCSD Board, and Washoe County

Some time ago, the WCSD Board extended the middle school student walk zone from 2 to 2.25 miles, significantly affecting a student's commute to and from school. As such, a representative of the WCSD Police subjectively declared the Arrowcreek Parkway corridor safe for adolescents to walk. As previously brought to the board's attention, there are several known factors, among them speed and lack of street lighting-which profoundly affect winter mornings travel. In addition, I wanted to inform the board and district of the conditions of the sidewalks on the roadway. During snowstorms, the sidewalks spanning Arrowcreek Parkway from Wedge Parkway to Thomas Creek are not cleared. The snow can lie for weeks, effectively obstructing the walkway. I have observed students with no choice but to walk on the shoulders of the roadway (in the street), which is cause for great concern.

In light of the declarations by the board and the county regarding the Arrowcreek corridor, it is only prudent that both entities bear the responsibility of clearing the sidewalks so that walking students can safely traverse them.