

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 11, 2023
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

April 11, 2023

1. Opening Items

1.01 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 2:03 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, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley were present. Board Member Joe Rodriguez was absent from the meeting. Superintendent Susan Enfield and staff were also present.

1.03 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

School Police Officer Richard Miranda led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Consent Agenda Items

Trustee Church requested Consent Agenda Item 2.20, Approval of the purchase of services with International Institute for Restorative Practices, be pulled for additional discussion. He stated he was against providing final approval to draft Board Policy 5120, Consent Agenda Item 2.04, but would not pull the item to vote against it.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

John Eppolito spoke to Consent Agenda Items 2.04 and 2.05. In regard to Consent Agenda Item 2.04, he believed more students should be arrested based on the number of videos of fights that had recently been in the news. In regard to Consent Agenda Item 2.05, he did not believe it was appropriate for the Board to spend \$19,000 for someone to evaluate the Superintendent when that was the responsibility of the Board.

The Board received an email from Trina Hofbauer related to Consent Agenda Item 2.04.

It was moved by Trustee Mayberry and seconded by Trustee Woodley that **the Board of Trustees approves Consent Agenda Items 2.02 through 2.19 and 2.21.** The

result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

- 2.02 The Board of Trustees approved the minutes of the February 14, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- 2.03 The Board of Trustees approved the minutes of the February 28, 2023 Work Session of the Board of Trustees.
- 2.04 The Board of Trustees provided final approval to draft Board Policy 5120, Arrest of Students on School Property.
- 2.05 The Board of Trustees approved the contract with Dr. Thomas Alsbury for facilitation of the Board Self-Evaluation and Superintendent Evaluation Goals for the 2023-24 School Year in a total amount of \$19,000.
- 2.06 The Board of Trustees accepted the information collected from The Duffield Foundation related to Nevada Revised Statute 386.390.
- 2.07 The Board of Trustees approved the Ratification for Award of Bid #23-42-B-02-DA, Electric Bus Charging Stations at Schultz Transportation Center, to Don M. Lazorko Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$495,584.
- 2.08 The Board of Trustees approved the Ratification for Award of Bid #23-43-B-02-DA, Flooring Replacement at Darrell C Swope Middle School, to Contract Flooring & Interior Services, Inc. in the amount of \$559,604.
- 2.09 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-45-B-02-DA, Removal of student restroom sinks, counters, bathroom wall finishes, and replace/install wall mounted sinks, install new bathroom mirrors and bathroom wall finishes at Damonte Ranch High School, to Meiden Construction, LLC in the amount of \$365,016.
- 2.10 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-47-B-02-AA, Replacement of Isolation Valves at Reno High School, to Savage and Son, Inc. in the amount of \$152,770.
- 2.11 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-49-B-02-AA, Replacement of Hot Water Heaters at Alice Smith, Silver Lake, and Spanish Springs Elementary Schools, to S & S Mechanical LLC in the amount of \$184,523.

- 2.12 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-52-B-02-DA, Repaint, Reseal, and Replace Exterior Windows and Door Frames at Damonte Ranch High School, to Monument Construction in the amount of \$499,536.
- 2.13 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-54-B-02-AA, Exterior Painting and Sealing Improvements at Edward Van Gorder Elementary School, to Contract Flooring & Interior Services, Inc. in the amount of \$228,701.
- 2.14 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-55-B-02-AA, Exterior Painting and Sealing Improvements at Sarah Winnemucca Elementary School, to Contract Flooring & Interior Services, Inc. in the amount of \$230,701.
- 2.15 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-56-B-02-AA, Exterior Painting and CMU Resealing Improvements at Ted Hunsberger Elementary School, to Contract Flooring & Interior Services, Inc. in the amount of \$189,521.
- 2.16 The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of cafeteria tables estimated \$406,360.31 from School Specialty through a joinder contract, NIPA #R141608
- 2.17 The Board of Trustees approved the agreement to provide professional consultant services to CM Works for construction administration consulting for Debbie Smith Career Technical Education Academy High School project in the amount of \$2,755,377.
- 2.18 The Board of Trustees approved the agreement to provide professional consultant services to Wood Rodgers for construction testing and special inspection for Debbie Smith Career Technical Education Academy High School project in the amount of \$867,800.
- 2.19 The Board of Trustees approved an increase in contract amount to Harris Landscape for Request for Bid (RFB) #178-B-06-22-LR Certain Irrigation Repair Services, for the current term of the contract ending August 23, 2024, for a revised contract total of \$479,574.
- 2.21 The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of classroom microphones, speakers, and amplifiers from Audio Enhancement, Inc., for various schools using the Elementary and Secondary Schools Relief Funds (ESSER II) for \$1,462,154.32.
- 2.20 **APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF SERVICES WITH INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESTORATIVE PRACTICES FOR WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT USING AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP)**

**ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDS
(ESSER III) FOR \$209,735**

Superintendent Enfield remarked that restorative practices and exclusionary discipline practices could and had to co-exist. Unfortunately, there would always be a need to temporarily remove children from a classroom or school, but for lesser offenses, there should be opportunities for teachable moments. It was important for restorative practices to be implemented properly, which could not occur without the appropriate training in the practices.

Dr. Paul LaMarca, Chief Strategies Officer, provided additional information on the International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP). The District had contracted with IIRP for large-scale trainings on restorative practices after the 2019 Legislative Session, but the trainings were interrupted due to the pandemic. Information on the intent of restorative practices and the training process was presented. Most trainings would occur during the summer and off-contract hours; however, both teachers and administrators would be compensated for their time. He noted there were no bills in the 2023 Legislative Session that would eliminate restorative practices as a requirement for Nevada school districts and successful restorative practices was dependent on teachers and administrators receiving appropriate training for effective implementation, which the contract with IIRP would provide.

Superintendent Enfield highlighted that Dr. LaMarca had been working with Governor Lombardo's team and various legislators on bills related to restorative practices, including what was practical and doable in the schools.

Trustee Church asked if the District would be able to get out of the contract with no penalty. Dr. LaMarca noted there was language in the agreement that would allow the District to leave the contract for compelling reasons with 30 days' notice prior to any substantive work.

Trustee Church requested clarification on current legislation because his understanding was that there could continue to be changes to restorative practices until the end of the Session. Dr. LaMarca responded that there could be changes; however, the dominant perspective from both parties was that restorative practices were needed in the schools.

Trustee Church disagreed because he knew of a number of people, including himself, who believed restorative practices was a failed concept. He wondered if individuals who believed as such had "a place at the table." Dr. LaMarca agreed all viewpoints had a place at the table. The District had the responsibility to ensure that teachers and administrators were prepared to follow the law and currently, restorative practices were in the law. Based on discussions with Legislators, it did not appear there would be major changes to remove restorative practices from the law.

Trustee Church asked if the language in the staff report that said if the Board did not approve the agreement, the District would not be in compliance with the law, was an accurate statement. Dr. LaMarca responded in the affirmative. The law mandated restorative practices. There was an interruption in the implementation of restorative practices during the pandemic, but the law had not changed.

Trustee Church felt the language in the staff report was inaccurate and that the Board could decide not to approve the contract while remaining compliant with the law. Superintendent Enfield emphasized that while the contract itself would not place the District in violation of the law, the District would be in serious jeopardy of not complying with the law if staff was unable or ill-equipped to implement restorative practices responsibly.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

James Benthin mentioned he would like to see a pilot program in a couple of schools for restorative practices before the program was implemented throughout the District. He urged the Board to wait to approve the contract until the end of the school year so they would have more results on school disciplinary issues and how to correct them. He agreed with Paul White that restorative practices were based on the false assumptions that poor school performance was racially based and that black students were suspended more because of their race.

John Eppolito claimed he was present when the legislative committees conducted hearings on the bills mentioned. He indicated the testimony from the teachers was not mentioned during staff comments and that the teachers testified they were terrorized daily by poor student behavior. He was interested in seeing the bills allow the teachers to be able to permanently remove a student from the classrooms and not the principals.

Sandee Tibbett remarked that restorative practices did not teach students anything about life skills and how to navigate the workplace. She believed restorative practices made teachers glorified social workers and that offending students were never held accountable for poor behavior or actions, nor taught right from wrong. She claimed it was because of restorative practices that violence against teachers had become common. She blamed the District, not the community, for the increase in violence because it was the inaction from the Board and Superintendent that allowed the violence to continue.

President Smith recessed the meeting for 5 minutes when Ms. Tibbett refused to end her comments after 3 minutes.

President Smith reminded the community that meetings of the Board of Trustees were business meetings for the Washoe County School District that the public was invited to

and welcome to participate in. The Trustees treated everyone with respect and decorum and expected the same in return. All members of the public were welcome and due their 3 minutes to provide their comments. The Board was respectful and open to comments and appreciated everyone who took the time to come to the meetings. However, the Board would not tolerate breaks in decorum that derailed the work of the Board of Trustees and Washoe County School District.

Trustee Church mentioned he was offended by the statement in the public documents provided by staff that said his belief that restorative justice was a dismal failure was indefensible. His opinion was just as valid as everyone else's, and he provided a quote from Governor Lombardo that showed there had been a 46% increase in violence and sexual assaults reported in the Clark County School District since 2019 and that over 7,000 incidents were violence reported in the Washoe County School District during the 2022-23 School Year. He did not believe the cost of the training was acceptable, even if teachers were not pulled out of the classroom. He mentioned that many students were absent a lot because they feared for their safety and if parents did not believe their children were safe, they would pull their students from the schools resulting in lost revenue. He would like to either postpone or reject the agenda item.

Trustee Westlake felt what had occurred at the Board meeting was similar to what was occurring in classrooms throughout the District, in that there was a disruption and that instead of addressing the disruption, the teachers were just trying to work through the disruption. She could not imagine teachers and students being able to continue their work when a disruption occurred. She did not believe teachers and administrators were able to implement a practice, such as restorative practices, without proper training. She also believed the disruption had to be removed from the classroom first before the restorative practices could be used to address any incident.

President Smith remarked that it was difficult for her to judge a practice before it had been properly implemented and proper implementation could not occur without the appropriate training.

Trustee Mayberry requested clarification on the differences between restorative justice and restorative practices. Dr. LaMarca commented that the terms were used interchangeably. Both were a set of strategies or practices that were used to build community, address behavior, increase student engagement, and reintegrate students into the classroom or school. Additional information was provided on what restorative practices were and how they were used to address behaviors and give voice to both victims and offenders.

Trustee Mayberry asked if the Behavior Manual and Matrix were the "how" to the strategy. Dr. LaMarca explained restorative practices were part of the process that would allow the Behavior Manual to be implemented fully. He agreed with Trustee Westlake that if there

was a behavior that was disruptive, then that behavior needed to be removed immediately to create a safe environment. Restorative practices were then used to address the behavior and reintegrate back into the classroom.

Trustee Nicolet agreed, as a former educator, that restorative practices and exclusions did work together. She provided examples of witnessing restorative practices in elementary and middle schools and the difference in how restorative practices were addressed in high schools. She appreciated the seriousness with which the principals and counselors used restorative practices to address what had occurred with both parties. The key in all instances, to get students to go from a place of anger to a place of communicating frustrations, was implementing restorative practices with fidelity which could not occur without training. That training had not occurred throughout the District or state because of COVID.

It was moved by Trustee Woodley and seconded by Trustee Mayberry that **the Board of Trustees approves the purchase of services with International Institute for Restorative Practices for Washoe County School District using the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER III) for \$209,735.** The result of the vote was 5-1: (Yea: Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley. Nay: Jeff Church.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

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

3.01 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE ASSESSMENT REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF i-READY MATH AND READING SITE LICENSES, TO FORMATIVELY ASSESS AND MONITOR STUDENT ACADEMIC GROWTH AND PROVIDE TARGETED PERSONALIZED INSTRUCTION FOR EACH STUDENT, FOR ALL WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS FROM CURRICULUM ASSOCIATES, LLC, USING AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDS (ESSER III) FOR \$6,484,688.25

Dr. Sandra Aird, Director of Assessment, provided information on the assessment review and desire to begin using iReady to assess and monitor student academic growth moving forward. The goal for the Office of Academics was to ensure students were able to grow academically at least one grade level each year. The assessment plan was used to determine if the District was meeting those goals through annual assessments. A review of the assessment plan was conducted to determine the number and purpose of all assessments. The review also allowed the District to look at eliminating redundancies. The District then looked to determine if there was an effective and efficient assessment and intervention tool that could provide timely, actionable, and stream-lined academic

growth and achievement data for students, teachers, and administrators. Information on how iReady would allow teachers to monitor student progress and achievement and provide data on which students required additional personalized instruction. The District sought feedback from administrators and teachers on the program in early 2023.

Superintendent Enfield added the Nevada Department of Education had approved iReady as an assessment tool. The program would allow the District to streamline the assessments to create a more cohesive system that would provide students and teachers with the ability to determine where they stood during the school year. The program would also allow more opportunities to provide information to and collaborate with families.

Trustee Church requested clarification on the program and if it would allow the District to show academic improvement. Dr. Aird indicated that with proper implementation, iReady would show positive results on annual Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBA) scores.

Trustee Church noted the District's SBA scores on the Nevada Department of Education website. He wanted to ensure the District would see improvement on those scores. Superintendent Enfield mentioned the District would see improvement over time on the SBA scores. More importantly, the District would have growth data on the students. The importance of growth data on both low achieving and high achieving students was explained. Dr. Troy Parks, Chief Academic Officer, added the iReady program was a K-8 initiative. The program would allow teachers to see student data and provide analysis almost immediately. The program would also provide guidance on what the students should be learning next to improve.

Trustee Nicolet asked why it was good to get rid of District finals in Algebra, Geometry, Formal Geometry, Algebra 2, and Honors Algebra. Dr. Parks stated the intent of District finals was to provide confidence that students were college and career ready; however, the assessment and teaching levels were not the same. With iReady, the schools voluntarily had the opportunity to show students were college and career ready. Superintendent Enfield added she had heard from many teachers that the data from the District finals was not helpful in informing instruction. The state would also be bringing back end of course exams so it was redundant to have both District finals and end of course exams.

Trustee Nicolet wondered why the assessments were voluntary. Dr. Parks mentioned the voluntary aspect was related only to the Algebra exams. The District would use the opportunity as a pilot program and determine if they wanted to move forward with that aspect of the iReady program in the future.

Trustee Mayberry requested clarification on whether the District would continue to assess students. Superintendent Enfield stated the iReady assessments would be conducted three times annually.

Trustee Mayberry asked who developed the questions to ensure they aligned with the standards. Dr. Aird explained the test was an adaptive diagnostic tool that allowed the District to determine the knowledge of the individual students. If a student continually answered questions correctly, the questions would get more difficult, but if a student struggled, the questions would get easier to determine where the knowledge base was for that individual. The questions were developed by Curriculum Associates.

Trustee Church inquired as to why the conversation had moved to not providing certain math tests. He was concerned the Board had gotten off-topic and could be in violation of the Open Meeting Law. Superintendent Enfield explained the assessment review provided an opportunity for the District to look at stream-lining assessments. The iReady program was for K-8; however, it was also important for the Board to look at the totality of assessments and which assessments would be phased out as part of the implementation of iReady. Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, noted the agenda item included the presentation and discussion of the assessment review. The vote, if taken, would only be related to the purchase of the iReady math and English Language Arts (ELA) licenses.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

John Eppolito expressed frustration over the District spending \$6.5 million on testing that occurred on screens. He urged the District to look at ways to use the funds to get students off screens. He was concerned over who Curriculum and Associates would share the data with because he could not find the information. He believed the District continually ignored the information he and Protect Nevada Children provided on the dangers of screen time on children.

President Smith asked if the District had a plan in place to ensure all schools were prepared to run the iReady program. Dr. Parks responded in the affirmative and noted the District was well positioned to implement the program at the start of the 2023-24 School Year. Superintendent Enfield emphasized that the District would work school-by-school to ensure they had the technology needed to implement iReady and ensure it was successful for the students.

President Smith remarked that the number of assessments and the amount of instruction time taken away from teachers because of the assessments was one of the first concerns brought to her by constituents. She agreed nothing could take the place of a highly qualified instructor in front of children. Based on the information provided, she believed

the program would build upon itself and provide opportunities for teachers and students to be successful.

Trustee Westlake wondered how much time a child would be in front of a screen with the iReady program. Dr. Aird noted the adaptive assessment would be on-line and taken three times a year. The personalized learning associated with the program was recommended to be no more than 45 minutes per week, per subject. The feedback from the administrators was that the teacher was the most influential individual in the room for a student, so while some personalized instruction would occur on-line, the teacher would also spend time working with small groups with other students on iReady lessons.

It was moved by Trustee Mayberry and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees approves the purchase of i-Ready Math and English Language Arts (ELA) site licenses for all Washoe County School District Elementary and Middle Schools from Curriculum Associates, LLC, using American Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER III) for \$6,484,688.25.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

3.02 **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE PROGRESS AND SCHEDULE OF THE DISTRICT-WIDE STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS CONDUCTED BY PERFORMANCE FACT, INC**

Superintendent Enfield provided a brief update on the work occurring on the development of a new strategic plan. She thanked all the staff and family members who had taken part in the planning process and developing a draft plan that would be presented to the Trustees in the future. She encouraged families and others in the community to attend upcoming meetings to ensure their thoughts were included.

3.03 **PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO CONSIDER, APPROVE, AND/OR AMEND THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ZONING ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO MODIFY ENROLLMENT BOUNDARIES OF PROCTER R HUG HIGH SCHOOL AND ROBERT MCQUEEN HIGH SCHOOL, BEGINNING FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR**

Adam Searcy, Chief Operating Officer, and Christine Hull, Chair, Zoning Advisory Committee, presented information on the recommendation from the Zoning Advisory Committee to modify the enrollment boundaries of Procter R. Hug High School and Robert McQueen High School. Background information on why the changes were requested and current and projected enrollments reviewed. The primary reason for the request was the actual enrollment of Procter R. Hug High School was 8% higher than anticipated when the Board approved the initial zoning recommendations. The opening of the Debbie Smith

Career and Technical Education Academy (CTA) for the 2025-26 School Year would also impact the enrollment numbers at all high schools throughout the District. The recommendation would also address the Archie Clayton Middle School split-feeder status between three high schools, which was an area the Zoning Advisory Committee had a desire to address for several years. The different options considered by the Committee prior to making their recommendation were provided.

Freeman Holbrook, Principal, Robert McQueen High School, explained the proactive steps the faculty at Robert McQueen High School were taking to welcome the new students and their families since the proposed change would begin with the 2023-24 School Year. Staff had reached out to the students and their families individually to talk about the school and how they would support them.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

Nichelle Hull believed the residents near the new Procter R. Hug High School were gravely concerned about the violence at the schools, which she felt was due to the number of gang members zoned for the school. She wondered if the District had conversations with the schools about how zoning changes would bring gang members into their schools. She did not believe the District was addressing repetitive bullying in the schools and had to settle lawsuits because of violations.

The Board received an email from Freeman Holbrook.

Trustee Mayberry asked if there had been feedback from the families regarding the proposed change. Ms. Hull noted the Zoning Advisory Committee had sent various ConnectEd messages to families who would be impacted. No comments were received except support from the Robert McQueen High School staff.

Trustee Nicolet inquired if there would be additional attendance zone changes once the Debbie Smith CTA opened. Mr. Searcy highlighted that the school would have an open enrollment from throughout the District and not a particular area. The District projected enrollment for Debbie Smith CTA based on enrollment at the Academy of Arts, Careers and Technology (AACT) High School.

It was moved by Trustee Mayberry and seconded by Trustee Woodley that **the Board of Trustees approves modifications to the zoning boundaries at Procter R. Hug High School and Robert McQueen High School in the manner depicted in Option 1, effective beginning the 2023-24 School Year, as recommended by the Zoning Advisory Committee.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

3.04 QUALITY OF EDUCATION – DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION OF SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT TO HIGHLIGHT THE SUCCESS OF THE STUDENTS ATTENDING LIBBY BOOTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Board received a Quality of Education – School Spotlight presentation on Libby Booth Elementary School. Dalilah Hartley was named the Student Superstar because she exemplified strength in leadership with a reserved attitude and her academic growth. Libby Booth Elementary School had the highest rates of children in poverty, experiencing homelessness, and transiency in Washoe County, but those variables did not stop the students from excelling. Data on student demographics and performance were reviewed and showed the school grew from the lowest performing elementary school in 2029 to the third highest performing elementary school in reading among Title 1 schools. Additionally, 10% of students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) scored above standards in reading.

President Smith recessed the meeting for 20 minutes.

3.05 PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE DONATION BY THE WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 200 SCHOOL STREET IN WADSWORTH (NATCHEZ GYM), NEVADA TO THE PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE

Tami Zimmerman, Chief Facilities Management Officer, explained the District was interested in donating the property in Wadsworth because the Natchez Gym was primarily used by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. The District did not have a real need for the property since the original elementary school was closed in the 1960s.

James Phoenix, Chairman, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, thanked the Board and District for their interest in supporting the needs of the community. The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe had immediate uses for the gym that would benefit the entire community.

Trustee Woodley thanked Chairman Phoenix for his work in the community and representing the Pyramid Like Paiute Tribe.

It was moved by Trustee Mayberry and seconded by Trustee Woodley that **the Board of Trustees approves the donation of real property located at 200 School Street in Wadsworth, Nevada to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: The result of the vote was Unanimous: (Yea: Jeff Church, Adam Mayberry, Diane Nicolet, Beth Smith, Colleen Westlake, and Alex Woodley.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

4. Reports

4.01 **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

This item was not heard.

4.02 **BOARD REPORTS**

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

4.03 **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

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

5. Closing Items

5.01 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Nichelle Hull recalled Mr. Rombardo had previously said an individual could provide comments on an agenda item, if they reasonably believed the comments were related to the agenda item. She felt, based on those comments, that she had been treated unfairly when told her comments were not related to the agenda item regarding the faulty zoning for Procter R. Hug High School which had rival gangs at the same school. She claimed there were many people frustrated and fearful of sending their children to school in Spanish Springs. She felt none of the Trustees were interested in listening to the parents when they complained about the schools.

Sabrina Gentner was an English Language Arts teacher at Incline Middle School. She and other members of the Incline Village community were interested in bridging the perceived gap between the District and the Tahoe community. She indicated many in the community were concerned about the exclusion of community input as related to the discussion to close Incline Middle School. She urged the Board to reconsider including members of the community to be part of the decision-making process.

Bruce Foster questioned if restorative justice practices would have worked for the 14-year-old who was stabbed to death. He wondered why the Board meetings occurred in the middle of the day when parents were not able to attend. He urged the Board to consider holding their meetings in the evenings, similar to how the community forums related to the strategic plan were conducted. He expressed frustration that only a handful of parents attended the forums but reiterated that those who did were concerned about school safety and absenteeism.

Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, clarified that the remarks made at a prior meeting attributed to him were related to the Nevada Open Meeting Law. His recollection was that the question was that the comments made by a member of the public were a violation of the Open Meeting Law because the topic of guns was not on the agenda. He had advised that the public could not violate the Open Meeting Law, only a public body could violate the Open Meeting Law. A member of the public could speak on a topic they reasonably believed was related to the agenda topic without violating the Open Meeting Law. Additionally, President Smith, as the manager of the meeting, believed the individual's comments were related to the agenda topic.

The Board received emails from the following:

Joe Morabito
Brian Erbis
Kate Pflughoeft
Molly Meyer
Pablo Nava Duran
Richard Petersen
Tara Gaines

5.02 **NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The next Regular Meeting would take place on Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

5.03 **ADJOURN MEETING**

There being no further business to come before the members of the Board, President Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Elizabeth Smith, President

Joseph Rodriguez, Clerk

From: Hofbauer, Trina
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 1:38 PM
To: Policy
Subject: Arrest of students on school property

It seems I missed the deadline as public comment closed less than 24 hrs ago – please consider my late submission – my campus community was my focus these last two days back from break....but policy is also a strong area of interest and experience for me.

It would seem that being our K-12 students are minors and needing to be accounted for at all time and are by law required to attend school....if arrested on campus the intervening authorities need to notify the minors legal guardian/parent by end of the school day (no later than one hour after school is released) as the parent/guardian would need to know their minor is accounted for and hasn't gone missing, ran away, been abducted, etc.

It would also be great if we could preserve their inherent dignity and worth of our individual students by arresting them NOT in front of their peer community (whenever possible) and NOT in designated safe places (counselors, social workers, Marriage, Family therapist or school psychologist offices) as LE wouldn't bust into a doctors or therapist office in the community these safe places on school campuses should also be honored and Law Enforcement should work with that professional and onsite admin to arrange an adequate location to detain a minor/youth.

Trina Hofbauer, LMSW
School Social Worker
Washoe INSPIRE Academy
1155 Corporate Blvd.
775.337.9938

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From: Morabito, Joe
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2023 9:17 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Board Fiddles While The District Burns

The current Superintendent and Board Members have done nothing to improve safety in the district, or the district's dismal academic performance and test scores. Just plain malfeasance and malpractice. School Choice is the only alternative to failing public schools. It is the only way to end control by teacher unions that is hurting children. This is a national issue that many Red state states are addressing. Unfortunately, Blue states controlled by Socialist Fascist (AKA Democrat) legislatures owed by teacher unions do nothing to improve the quality of public education. Very sad. JM

Joseph Morabito

From: Brian Erbis
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2023 10:09 AM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers; SHSC Committee; Reno Direct; Washoe311; Enfield, Susan
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bussing and Traffic at Marce Herz Middle School

To the Members of the Washoe County School District Board and the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission:

I wish to inform you of the worsening pickup and dropoff at the Marce Herz Middle School and the daily flagrant motor vehicle violations committed on the property – namely, U-turns and left turns. I was initially hesitant to voice my concerns over this matter, however, twice in the last two days, my vehicle was almost struck by drivers of cars who engaged in the aforementioned prohibited acts. I attribute this issue to the district's lack of addressing this matter, whether by posted signage, school police presence/enforcement, or an ongoing and prudent campaign to educate parents. The last time I expressed this issue, the answer was to send a one-time mass mail to parents/guardians. If you need to corroborate my version of events, you should contact Mr. Bringhurst, who is out every morning, crossing children. I have seen many perform left turns and U-turns in front of him, which I am certain he observed.

Out of the many signs on the property, nothing is posted about prohibited turns – perhaps that is a good starting point. Additionally, I have expressed the matter of bussing to the board several times. There are too many cars present at pick up and drop off. The unnecessary traffic impacts the environment and increases the chances of collisions and injuries, putting schoolchildren at greater risk. I am sure Jeff Church, a retired police officer, and Adam Mayberry, in his employment with the Truckee Meadows Fire District, can attest to the safety issues surrounding statistics pertaining to vehicles and pedestrian safety. The board can alleviate this by shrinking the bussing/walk zone, allowing partially filled busses to be filled, thus reducing vehicular traffic.

I understand some recent dialogue about bussing occurred during a board meeting. I do not accept that the issue is a matter of funding when most buses drive up Arrowcreek Parkway passing Wedge Parkway to Herz. I have observed several buses to be a third to half full, and I do not accept the argument that more children cannot be picked up in the area of the intersection of Wedge and Arrowcreek Parkways. It is simply commonsense – which does not usually exist in a bureaucracy.

There has been enough bantering and deliberating over this matter. It is time for the board to take action by adding to the agenda as a priority matter instead of minutiae.

I would like to discuss this matter further with the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission. Thank you.

Yours,

Brian Erbis

Reno, Nevada



Robert McQueen High School

6055 Lancer Street, Reno, Nevada 89523

Phone 775.746.5880

Fax 775.747.6883

Quest for Excellence

Freeman Holbrook, Principal
Kristi Amundson, Assistant Principal
Brice Shoolroy, Assistant Principal
Daniel Schreiber, Assistant Principal
Carl LaGrone, Dean of Students
Lucas Weber, Athletic Director

Dear WCSD Board of Trustees-

I wanted to share support of option #1 on board agenda item 3.03 from McQueen H.S. At McQueen H.S. we have a proud staff and student body that is ready and excited to bring in our new Lancers. We know how hard change and transition can be at times. For that reason, we have acted very proactively to plan for this option which we believe is best for the students coming to us as well as students at other sites within WCSD. I have created a Council of Student Inclusion (COSI) at McQueen who will assist in seeing this process through in a manner that is beneficial for all involved. This team is made up of Students, Parents, General Education Teachers, Special Education Teachers, Counselors, Classified Staff, McQueen FGA, and of course my Administration Team. This team has planned the events you see below and it has been communicated to the entire staff to be ready for these events to pop onto the calendar if this body should choose option #1.

I further want to confirm that we are ready with a plan that handles some of the acute logistics necessary to properly implement a large transition like this. However, it is not lost on us that inclusion is a practice that is not only acutely necessary but must be an ongoing focus as well. We have incorporated our youngest new Lancers into our plan, and we will be visiting Elmcrest and Peavine to show our solidarity and welcome them to Lancer Country. We look forward to collaborating with our new feeder schools and Hug H.S. as we continue to make sure that kids in Washoe County always win!

As a central component to our amazing community, we welcome this opportunity to support more students with our amazing staff! Please let me know how I can help with any questions or thoughts going forward.

Sincerely,

Freeman Holbrook

Principal

Robert McQueen High School

fholbrook@washoeschools.net

(775) 746-5880





Robert McQueen High School

6055 Lancer Street, Reno, Nevada 89523

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Event	Audience	Location	Date
Lancer Athletic Night: Info. Night For Lancer Student Athletes.	High School / Middle School Students and Families	McQueen High School Campus	4/12/23 @ 6:00p
New Lancer Night: What is the McQueen Family.	High School / Middle School Students and Families	McQueen High School Campus	4/??/23 @ 6:00p
Lancer Family Visits: McQueen Students and Staff Visits to Hug/Clayton for course marketing and class requests!	High School / Middle School Students and Families	Hug High School / Clayton Middle School	4/??/23 Continuous
Lancer Family Visits: McQueen Students and Staff Visit and Deliver McQueen Swag!	Elementary School Students and Families	Elmcrest / Peavine Elementary School	Continuous
Student Connection/Tracking: Multiple student events to include, Unity Day and Project McQ!	ALL McQueen High School Students and Families	McQueen High School Campus	Continuous
School Performance Plan: Focus on ALL students feeling a connection to the school and the McQueen Family!	ALL McQueen Partners	McQueen Community	Continuous

From: Kate Pflughoeft <kjpflughoeft@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 8, 2023 6:26 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Dual language education

Hello WCSD Board of Trustees,

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion – are not only buzz words, they are descriptors for ideal schools and communities. One way to reach this goal is to implement more Dual Language (DL) or Immersion programs throughout our district. Currently, there are only two DL programs operating in the WCSD – Jessie Beck and Mount Rose. At Jessie Beck, DL classrooms offer the opportunity for students from diverse backgrounds to learn in an equitable environment as they are learning in classrooms where 50% of the students are native English speakers and 50% of the students are native Spanish speakers, allowing all students to be included. By expanding the DL language option to families throughout the district we not only have the option to increase graduation rates by offering a fair playing field for more students, but offer all students in the district a chance to learn strategies to think outside the box. When my family learned that we had the opportunity to enroll our child in a DL program we gladly took the option, not only would our son learn a second language starting in kindergarten, but he would also pick up critical thinking skills at an early age, skills that he may not have learned until much later in life. Talking to other families outside of our zoned school, we know that others would gladly pick the DL option if it were available. The interest is there, the programs just need to be (further) implemented.

Thank you for your time

From: Meyer, Molly
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2023 11:23 AM
To: Public Comments; Searcy, Adam T
Subject: Administrative Regulation 7087 - School Closure

I am writing to express my concern over the draft regulation regarding school closure and would like to suggest changes to the draft policy.

The new regulation states "After notification of the Board, the superintendent will direct Staff to engage the Zoning Advisory Committee with public consideration of the proposed closure or consolidation." "The duties of the Zoning Advisory Committee are to... d. make a report and recommendation to the Board regarding the proposed closure."

It is my opinion that recommendations regarding school closure should NOT be the responsibility of the Zoning Advisory Committee. Our district comprises a large and diversified geographic area. An established committee cannot accurately represent the diverse interests of every area within our district. If a school is under consideration for closure, a committee specific to that community needs to be convened with representatives that include parents, staff, and community members of the school in question. The current regulation needs to be amended to include a requirement for a committee of local representation to make the recommendation, not the Zoning Advisory Committee.

Secondly, the regulation needs to be amended to require any public meetings about the school closure to be held at the school under consideration for closure. Again, our district comprises a large geographical area. Attending meetings in a location other than the school in question could pose a hardship for many community members who have a vested interest in the school closure. This is an essential component to ensure that local voices are heard without discrimination as part of the school closure process.

I appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this regulation and its importance to the school closure process.

Respectfully,
Molly Meyer
Parent of a 2nd and 4th grader at Incline Elementary
Incline Elementary PTA President
WCSD Speech Pathologist

Molly Meyer, MA, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist
Incline Middle and High Schools
775-832-4220 x41142

Dear, board members,

I know Vaughn MS rebuild has been pushed to the 2026/27 school year and I get it with construction and budget issues. I know the new Vaughn MS will have increased the capacity of 1400 and currently, they have 700 enrollment. They currently serve in Central Reno (four feeder schools: Loder, Corbett, Veteran, and Booth ES) and they all go to Wooster HS.

Previously, the school district decided to rezone Smithridge ES to Wooster HS, becoming the lone school to go to Wooster HS from Pine MS back in 2019. I was against this proposal, due to the feeder and realignment to the Smithridge ES that will negatively impact our community and social isolation from their peers after middle school. I asked you to rezone from Pine to Vaughn MS to be with peers and reduce the distraction after their middle school year, but you told me that the current Vaughn MS building doesn't support the capacity to hold additional students from Smithridge ES. Now they ended up at Damonte Ranch HS instead, with Donner Springs ES, which helped the Neil Road community a little bit.

Now the WCSD is planning to build a new Vaughn MS by Fall 2026, the Zoning Advisory Committee should have an agenda by Fall 2024 to rezone additional students to Vaughn MS. I know there will be at the Tatus Valley and Rancharra area that will build houses that are currently zoned at Pine MS, potentially increase enrollment at Pine MS. That results in overcrowding at Pine MS in near future, Also, the Damonte Ranch and South Meadows area are growing causing DRHS to be overcrowded as well.

The community will now support rezoning Smithridge ES (the Neil Road area) from Pine to Vaughn MS by the 2026-27 school year and from Damonte Ranch to Wooster HS by the 2026-27 school year (at the earliest) to 2027-28 school year (at the latest). This will benefit the Neil

Road students by making and retaining their peers through high school, expanding neighborhood school, helping Pine MS to have the capacity to have additional students who moved to the Tatus Valley and Rancharra area, helping DRHS to have the capacity to have additional students from daybreak area, remove Pine MS as title one school status, reduce tensions from Huffaker parents, and help the transportation expenses and bus driver shortage issues that had happened to our community last and earlier this year. Also, this area will be a walk zone to Vaughn MS and Wooster HS. The Neil Road community used to be part of South Reno, but as South Reno is growing further south, the Neil Road areas are part of Central Reno with Grove St, Wells Ave area, and much more east of South Virginia St, North of McCarran Blvd, South of I-80 Freeway and West of Airport.

Personally, this proposal is different for two reasons: one is my youngest sister will be in Junior and Senior year of high school, and that won't affect her as she will be granted grandfather variance to finish her high school year there; second, is my family income is improving as we currently are considered lower class status but will be at middle-class status in the future, so I will have a car in the future that will likely to finish her high school year by the class of 2028. The new Vaughn MS will have the capacity to add students to the Neil Road area, which their current doesn't not, and will have a positive impact on the Neil Road community and Central Reno as a whole, just like Pleasant Valleys ES rezone to Herz MS to make them as long-term middle school home. We will be making a long-term relationship with other neighborhoods in the Central Reno area when we rezone to new Vaughn MS. Smithridge ES will be making Vaughn MS the long-term middle school home as they previously zoned for Vaughn MS from 1956 to 2003.

If you have any questions or concerns, please either email me or contact me at (775) 502-5023.

Sincerely,

Pablo Nava Duran

From: RICHARD PETERSEN
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 7:25 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concerns for our Nevada schools

It is disturbing to hear of the recent Virginia schools withholding Merit Scholarship awards from deserving students. I hope that is not happening in our Nevada schools.

I am also concerned about the rebranding of CRT, the 1619 Project and any other curricula that paints the United States as an oppressive regime. It's fine to teach American history as it occurred. Teach the evil of slavery, teach the poor treatment of Native Americans, but also teach that this nation has learned from its mistakes and has led the world in human rights. Teach the good that America has done. Do not teach any curricula that makes one group to think of themselves as victims and other as oppressors. The world has ample examples of current regimes that violate human rights, that still hold slaves and repress freedoms.

Above all teach things that unite us instead of dividing us. Please listen to the concerns of parents who have a right to know what their children are being taught.

Thank you for all you do. I wish you happiness and safety.

Petersen/Sparks

From: Tara Gaines
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 2:30 PM
To: BoardMembers; Searcy, Adam T; Paul, Mike; Enfield, Susan; Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keep Incline Middle School Open!

Some people who received this message don't often get email from taralgaines@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Board Members and Washoe County School District Administration,

I am writing to you to strongly ask for your support in keeping Incline Middle School open. This is the right choice when considering the education, social emotional development, and overall support of all of our Incline Village students.

As an educator, and former educator of Washoe County School District, I've always been asked what data I have to support my decision making process when it comes to changes to the students. So I ask, what data do you have that supports the notion that moving 7th and 8th graders into high school promotes their educational and social emotional development? The research that I have done actually supports the opposite:

"Though the brain's physical structures are fully developed by age 6, the connections among them take longer to form. Early adolescence is when much of this wiring takes place. The middle school years are also what scientists call a "sensitive period" for social and emotional learning, when the brain is primed to learn from social cues. While the plasticity of the teenage brain makes it vulnerable to addiction, it also makes it resilient, capable of overcoming childhood trauma and adversity, according to [a report](#) recently published by the National Academies of Science. This makes early adolescence "a window of opportunity," a chance to set students on a solid path for the remainder of their education, said Ronald Dahl, director of the Institute of Human Development at the University of California, Berkeley."

While attending the community meeting on April 5th, I heard "data" presented that was based on national trends indicating our IMS population was expected to decrease over the next few years. While it is undeniable that our current population has decreased over the past few years, I argue that the national trends and formulas used do not apply to our extremely small, unique population that is Incline Village. If you do your research into Incline specifically, you will learn that our home sales have skyrocketed since 2020 and that a large portion of these new members are families with very young children.

We have a nonprofit organization in town that supports birth through three year old children, Tahoe's Connection for Families. In the past 3 years, they have seen experiential growth in their program and have for the first time in more than 20 years had to start a waitlist as there are too many young children in town than they are able to support. Additionally, all of the preschool and daycare programs in town are completely at capacity, many with enormous waitlists. All of this specific Incline Village data supports the theory that our IMS population will actually increase in the near future. In as little as 5 to 7 years, these preschool age children will be attending IMS. Closing down the school and shuffling the students into IES and IHS is extremely short sighted and setting the future Incline Village students up for failure when the population is sure to increase for our middle school students.

According to WCSD, over 19 million dollars in tax revenue was provided directly from Incline Village to WCSD last year alone. We ask that a fair portion of that money be used to support, improve, and continue developing all three of our Incline schools (IES, IMS, IHS). If there are problems with the IMS building, use a small fraction of this money to improve it, do not shut it down.

This is a critical decision and we as a community ask that you keep IMS open as it is the correct choice in supporting the current as well as future students of Incline Village. We hope you make the choice to support our students and their education rather than the choice to save the district money.

Thank you,
Tara Gaines