

**MINUTES OF THE JUNE 27, 2023
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

June 27, 2023

1. Opening Items

1.01 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 2:04 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 Keo and staff were also present.

1.03 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Emma Garrett-Nelson, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Smith took a point of personal privilege to remind members of the community that, as the manager of the meeting, she would not put up with any willful disruption of the business meeting, to include repetitious or profane comments. Such actions could result in the removal of the offending individual from the meeting. The comments were the result of hearing from multiple members of the District community regarding profane remarks made about Superintendent Enfield at a prior meeting by a member of the public.

2. Consent Agenda Items

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

Pablo Nava Duran provided comment related to Consent Agenda Item 2.06, Approval of Memorandums of Understanding between the Washoe County School District and Communities in Schools of Nevada, Inc. He spoke in support of the agreement because he knew of the programming Communities in Schools provided and how they helped students. He hoped the program would be extended to all Title I schools so more students could benefit.

Trustee Church highlighted the numerous contracts and other agreements with fiscal implications totaling close to \$10 million. He would not be pulling any items for efficiency sake, but wanted to ensure the community was aware of the items.

It was moved by Trustee Rodriguez and seconded by Trustee Woodley that **the Board of Trustees approves Consent Agenda Items 2.02 through 2.21**. 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 award of Request for Proposal (RFP) 85-P-12-23-GS, Comprehensive District-Wide Middle School And High School Athletic Uniforms And Related Apparel, to Branded Screen Printing, BSN Sports LLC, Buddy's All Stars Inc, Game One, and National Sports Apparel for the estimated total amount of \$3,000,000 for an initial term of 2 years beginning August 9, 2023 and ending August 8, 2025 with 3 optional 1 year renewals
- 2.03 The Board of Trustees approved the agreement with The Children's Cabinet to implement Signs of Suicide Program at all Washoe County School District middle schools for \$249,000
- 2.04 The Board of Trustees approved the Master Services Agreement with Invo-Progressus Therapy, LLC for Education and Education-Related Services for the placement of up to 45 social workers/safe school professionals in schools in the amount of \$1,109,346 for the 2023-24 School Year.
- 2.05 The Board of Trustees approved the agreement with The Children's Cabinet to implement transition services to students through hiring a Transition Liaison in the amount of \$114,000.
- 2.06 The Board of Trustees approved the Memorandums of Understanding between the Washoe County School District and Communities in Schools of Nevada, Inc., a Nevada non-profit corporation, to deliver collaborative, community-based integrated student services to students during 2023-24 School Year at William Anderson Elementary School, Libby Booth Elementary School, Desert Skies Middle School, Glenn Duncan Elementary School, Procter R. Hug High School, Lena Juniper Elementary School, Bernice Mathews Elementary School, Natchez Elementary School, Virginia Palmer Elementary School, Sparks Middle School, Sparks High School, Fred Traner Middle School, and E. Otis Vaughn Middle School for a total amount of \$497,640.

- 2.07 The Board of Trustees approved Washoe County School District's approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Donation Agreement with Intuit, Inc. in support of its food truck donation.
- 2.08 The Board of Trustees approved the increase in the Purchase Order with Destinations, Inc. in the total amount of \$26,919.21 to cover the costs of lodging for the state track and field tournament.
- 2.09 The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of fleet propane fuel estimated at \$510,000 from Ferrellgas LP through Joinder State of Nevada Purchasing Bulk Fuels Contract #99SWC-NV20-4282 for the period of 12 months July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.
- 2.10 The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of fleet diesel & unleaded fuels estimated at \$2,900,000 from Pilot Thomas Logistics through Joinder State of Nevada Purchasing Fuel Card Lock #99SWC-NV21-7551 for the period of 12 months, beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.
- 2.11 The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of fleet tires estimated at \$375,000 from authorized Goodyear Tire and Service Centers through Joinder State of Nevada Purchasing Vehicles Tire Tubes Services Contract #99SWC-NV19-1962 for the period of 12 months, beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.
- 2.12 The Board of Trustees approved the proposed budget for Washoe County P25 Radio System Interlocal Agreement Fiscal Service in the amount of \$266,940 for the period of 12 months, beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.
- 2.13 The Board of Trustees approved Renewal #2 of Request for Proposal for Commercial Purchasing Card Program, RFP #21-004, to Commerce Bank for an estimated annual revenue share of \$350,000 for an additional 1-year term beginning July 31, 2023, and ending July 30, 2024.
- 2.14 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-85-B-05-TE, Repaint, Reseal and Replace Exterior Window and Door Frames at North Valleys High School, to Group West Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$462,250.50.
- 2.15 The Board of Trustees awarded Bid #23-87-B-05-DA, Upgrade of Career and Technical Education (CTE) Classrooms at North Valleys High School, to Group West Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$135,489.41.

- 2.16 The Board of Trustees approved the renewal of the District's property, liability, excess workers' compensation, network security, crime and Assault Threat & Response Coverage for the renewal policy period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 for \$6,361,589.
- 2.17 The Board of Trustees approved the professional services contract with the University of Nevada - Neuromechanics Lab for the evaluation of sports related concussion assessments and related services in an amount not to exceed \$110,000 annually for each of the next 3 years for a total amount of not to exceed \$330,000.
- 2.18 The Board of Trustees approved the Purchase Order for the refurbishing and maintenance of football equipment with Riddell for \$113,800.
- 2.19 The Board of Trustees approved the Agreement to Provide Professional Consultant Services and/or Work with Pre-Construction Services Group for the Incline High School Expansion and Athletic Field Improvements for \$400,400.
- 2.20 The Board of Trustees approved the Agreement to Provide Testing and Special Inspections with Wood Rodgers for the Incline High School Expansion and Athletic Field Improvements for \$181,900.
- 2.21 The Board of Trustees approved the Agreement with the Washoe County Human Services Agency to fund two (2) family advocate positions in the amount of \$98,000.

3. Financial Items

3.01 DISCUSSION, PRESENTATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADOPT WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTIONS 23-005, 23-006, 23-007, 23-008, 23-009, 23-010, 23-011, 23-012, 23-013, 23-014 AND 23-015, RESOLUTIONS TO AUGMENT THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 BUDGET, AND APPROVAL OF AUGMENTATION, ADJUSTMENT AND TRANSFERS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 BUDGET

Mark Mathers, Chief Financial Officer, and Jeff Bozzo, Budget Director, explained the agenda item was a standard item for the Board to close out the fiscal year budget. The various resolutions allowed for the necessary adjustments between the budgeted and actual amounts for different funds. The transfers and savings for each fund were reviewed.

Trustee Mayberry requested additional information on the District's Ending Fund Balance. Mr. Mathers noted they anticipated the Ending Fund Balance to be close to the budgeted projection. Additional information on the Ending Fund Balance would be presented during the subsequent agenda item.

It was moved by Trustee Mayberry and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees adopts Washoe County School District Board Resolutions 23-005, 23-006, 23-007, 23-008, 23-009, 23-010, 23-011, 23-012, 23-013, 23-014 and 23-015, Resolutions to Augment the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget and approves budget transfers as proposed.** 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.

3.02 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 AMENDED FINAL BUDGET FOR ALL DISTRICT FUNDS, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 AMENDED FINAL BUDGET

Mark Mathers, Chief Financial Officer, and Jeff Bozzo, Budget Director, presented the amended final budget. Since the June 13 meeting, the District had confirmed the base per pupil funding amount, received information on weighted funding amounts, incorporated the motions from June 13 into the Amended Final Budget, completed an initial fiscal impact analysis of legislation signed since June 13, met with teams regarding stand-alone principals, and developed options for campus supervisor positions. Based on known information, the District was looking at a projected surplus of \$61 million for Fiscal Year 2023-24. Additional information was provided on the new base per-pupil amount and cost increases the District was anticipating. The District was able to present a structurally balanced budget, with a projected Ending Fund Balance of \$55.9 million or 9%, for the Board's approval. Other District funds were reviewed, including the Special Revenue Funds, Internal Service Funds, Capital Projects Funds, and Enterprise Funds.

Trustee Church asked how low was too low in terms of an ending fund balance. Mr. Mathers explained the Board's target was 12% and he considered an 8% fund balance to be a minimum an agency should have.

President Smith wondered what 9% would equal in terms of operating expenses. Mr. Mathers noted 8% equaled 1 month in terms of operating expenses, so 9% was a little over that 1 month.

Trustee Church asked if the Board was locking themselves into approving the Capital Improvement Plan to be heard later in the meeting since the funding was included in the amended budget. Mr. Mathers mentioned the District only budgeted for year 1 of

the Capital Improvement Plan, which the Board previously approved in April 2023. There was actually no net change in revenues or expenses to District funds included in the revised Capital Improvement Plan as the proposed changes were primarily technical in nature.

Mr. Mathers and Mr. Bozzo continued with the presentation with information on the build-out of the budget. The amended final budget funded all additional positions approved by the Board at the June 13 meeting, which would have a profound impact on students and schools in the District. The budget also reserved \$10 million for programs related to the new strategic plan. The final outcomes of collective bargaining would also need to be included once the negotiated agreements were approved.

Trustee Mayberry requested clarification on staffing for School Police and if unfilled positions could be used to help fund teaching positions if there was a decrease in enrollment. Mr. Mathers remarked that all new positions for School Police were budgeted for in the amended final budget. The savings from vacant positions could be used to cover other costs, but those funds could only be used until a position was filled so should be considered one-time funds.

President Smith asked for additional information on how the assistant principal, dean, or learning facilitator positions were selected for those schools with stand alone principals. Mr. Mathers explained the associate chiefs met with each principal from the 25 elementary schools who had stand alone principals to determine which position would be the best fit for the individual school. The total numbers were 1 assistant principal, 8 learning facilitators, and 18 deans.

Trustee Rodriguez wondered if School Police would be able to use any cost savings that resulted in the hiring of lateral officers versus putting a recruit through the academy. Mr. Mathers mentioned any possible savings would be a conversation between School Police and Business.

Trustee Church requested confirmation on the enrollment number used to develop the budget as 59,100 students. Mr. Bozzo indicated that was correct.

Trustee Church mentioned he would be interested in seeing the budget for the Internal Audit Department broken out for clarity. He inquired if the Superintendent would be able to take money earmarked for strategic plan programming and use it for additional staffing. Mr. Mathers emphasized that changes to allocations in terms of reorganization would be brought to the Board. The Internal Audit Department budget was included as part of the Board of Trustees' budget.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

Pablo Nava Duran thanked the Board for decreasing the walk zones for middle school students because he knew it would help a lot more students get to school. He spoke in support of additional School Police officers in the middle school and eliminating stand alone principals because he believed both would help decrease the amount of challenging student behaviors in the schools.

Calen Evans, President, Washoe Education Association, expressed his support for the idea of people over programs and urged the Board and District to continue to find ways to increase salaries for all employees. He understood the importance of programs, but it was important to remember the difficulty of filling open positions when employees were struggling with the cost of living in Washoe County. He noted the Board and District had been aggressive and creative in the use of accrued savings from vacant positions to support teachers and he believed the District would have seen a larger number of teachers leaving the profession had that not occurred. He urged everyone to continue to find creative solutions to support employees.

President Smith thanked everyone for their work on the final budget. She noted previous Boards of Trustees had to make difficult decisions in terms of budgets, including the elimination of some positions. The current Board would not be in a position of having a balanced budget and additional revenue for more positions if it had not been for the work of the prior Boards. She expressed her appreciation to all the former Trustees for their work and to all those who represented the District during the recent Legislative Session to advocate for increased funding.

It was moved by Trustee Nicolet and seconded by Trustee Woodley that **the Board of Trustees approves the Amended Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24.**

President Smith opened the motion for discussion.

President Smith reminded the community the Washoe County School District Board of Trustees were the only ones in Nevada to include prioritizing the needs of staff as part of their legislative platform. She requested a roll call vote be conducted based on the importance of the item.

Trustee Church – Yea
Trustee Mayberry – Yea
Trustee Nicolet – Yea
Trustee Rodriguez – Yea
Trustee Westlake – Yea
Trustee Woodley – Yea
President Smith – Yea

The result of the vote was Unanimous. Final Resolution: Motion Carries.

3.03 DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ADOPT WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTION 23-016, A 2023A SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT BOND RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT TO ISSUE ITS GENERAL OBLIGATION (LIMITED TAX) SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES 2023A, IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000,000

Mark Mathers, Chief Financial Officer, presented Washoe County School District Board Resolution 23-016, A 2023A School Improvement Bond Resolution authorizing the District to issue its General Obligation School Improvement Bonds.

It was moved by Trustee Woodley and seconded by Trustee Mayberry that **the Board of Trustees adopts Washoe County School District Board Resolution 23-016, A 2023A School Improvement Bond Resolution authorizing the district to issue general obligation bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$60,000,000.** 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.

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

4.01 PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE AWARD OF BID #23-86-B-05-AA, INCLINE HIGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS, CONTINGENT UPON DISBURSEMENT OF GRANT FUNDS FROM FIDELITY CHARITABLE, A DONOR-ADVISED FUND ADVISED BY DAVE & CHERYL DUFFIELD, TO PLENIUM BUILDERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,220,000

Tami Zimmerman, Chief Facilities Management Officer, reviewed the proposed improvements to Incline High School. The improvements would be funded by the Dave & Cheryl Duffield Foundation and include additional space for career and technical education (CTE) programming as well as additional safety and security features. The project was competitively bid, but only one bid was received in the amount of \$27,220,000. Plenum Builders was an off shoot of Q&D Construction.

President Smith requested additional information on how Plenum Builders was an off shoot of Q&D Construction. Ms. Zimmerman explained the owners of Plenum Builders were the horizontal construction arm of Q&D Construction, meaning they had been responsible for the infrastructure aspect of constructing a building. They left Q&D Construction and founded their own company. Plenum Builders was not associated with the management of Q&D Construction.

Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, explained there was no conflict of interest for Trustee Westlake related to the agenda item since her previously identified relationship was with Q&D Construction and not Plenium Builders.

It was moved by Trustee Church and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees awards Bid #23-86-B-05-AA, Incline High School Improvements, to Plenium Builders in the amount of \$27,220,000.** 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.

4.02 **PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE 2022/23 'D' MAJOR PROJECTS PROGRAM THAT INCLUDES PROJECTS THROUGHOUT THE WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO THE ATTACHED LIST AND ASSOCIATED COSTS FOR EACH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$98,200,000 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CAPITAL FUNDING PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

Tami Zimmerman, Chief Facilities Management Officer, reviewed the 2022/23 'D' Major Projects Program. Three major projects were included in the program, including the IT Device Refresh Program and the FY24 Capital Renewal Program. Information on each project was presented. The IT Device Refresh Program allowed the District to have student and teacher laptops and iPads on a 5 year replacement cycle. Some of the major projects in the FY24 Capital Renewal Program were reviewed.

Trustee Church asked where the funding for the program came from. Ms. Zimmerman indicated it came from the Government Service Tax Fund.

Trustee Westlake wondered if the Promethean Boards were included as part of the refresh program. Ms. Zimmerman noted the District was currently replacing Promethean Boards through Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds. Capital Projects was working with the Office of Teaching, Learning and Leadership to determine which schools would be receiving the boards. The intent was to ensure all classrooms would be outfitted with boards, with the initial focus on Title I schools and elementary schools. Additional schools would be added as funds allowed.

Trustee Westlake asked if the District used all WC1 monies each fiscal year. Mark Mathers, Chief Financial Officer, explained projects were budgeted on a fiscal year basis but due to the nature of how major construction projects occurred, the funds were spent across multiple fiscal years.

Trustee Westlake inquired if the District looked at other projects to complete while waiting for longer term projects to go through the process. An example was that she believed the District could have the football field at Edward C. Reed High School worked

on while they were waiting on construction documents for another project. Ms. Zimmerman noted the District did prioritize projects through the Facility Condition Index System (FCIS).

Trustee Rodriguez asked which schools did not have single point entry and if \$2 million would be enough for the District to add single point entry to all schools. Ms. Zimmerman stated all elementary schools, middle schools, and two high schools had single point entry. The \$2 million would provide the ability to add options to some of the older schools that might not have the same systems as some of the newer schools. The options would be presented to the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission (SHSC) prior to coming to the Board for final approval.

Trustee Mayberry requested additional information on how the process to provide single point entry at high schools would occur. Ms. Zimmerman mentioned the challenges with the high schools was often that the front offices were detached from the main entry doors. The District was looking at options and working with the SHSC. She provided additional information on how staff worked with the individual schools on safety and security options and deficiencies, such as blind spots for cameras.

Trustee Westlake wondered how the new panic buttons tied into the projects. It was her understanding perimeter cameras would be installed as part of the system so staff would be able to have eyes on what was occurring. Ms. Zimmerman clarified the Centigex system did not have cameras, but nodes that detected when a panic button was activated and the general location.

Trustee Nicolet asked if there had been discussion about vape detectors for middle and high school bathrooms. Ms. Zimmerman indicated there had not been discussions in Facilities Management or Capital Projects, but there had been some requests from individual schools. Staff was looking at the possible return on investment of installing such devices.

President Smith highlighted the Board had tasked the SHSC with looking at options related to vape detector as part of their goals for the upcoming meeting year.

Trustee Church indicated he was inclined to support the item, but was of the opinion that if something was not broken, then it should not be fixed just because the District had the money.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

Pablo Nava Duran mentioned he would like to see the track at Sparks High School expanded to eight lanes and the football field and bleachers at Earl Wooster High School updated. He agreed that if something was not broken it should not be fixed, but

there were a number of projects that needed to occur in the District. He expressed his support for single point entry at all high schools.

Ms. Zimmerman presented information on the final project, which was for additional funding of \$43.5 million to the construction budget for the Debbie Smith Career and Technical Education (CTE) Academy. Information on how the phased approach to the contracts for demolition and certain construction areas had resulted in savings for the District. The total budget for the project was \$168.5 million, which was \$46 million over the approved budget.

Trustee Church asked if the total cost for Debbie Smith CTE Academy was \$168.5 million. Ms. Zimmerman clarified that was the total budget estimate. The District had already bid and awarded two areas: demolition and the site and utility package.

Trustee Woodley wondered what the estimated completion date was for the project. Ms. Zimmerman stated June 2025, with the opening of the school for the 2025-26 School Year.

Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, asked the following clarifying questions of Trustee Westlake for the record:

Mr. Rombardo – Do you have a relationship or business partnership with Q&D Construction.

Trustee Westlake – Not with Q&D Construction but with Q&D Incorporated and some of the Dianda family members.

Mr. Rombardo – Was the agenda item asking to award the contract for the Debbie Smith CTE Academy.

Ms. Zimmerman – No, the agenda item was only related to the funding of the project and was not awarding any contracts.

Mr. Rombardo indicated Trustee Westlake had now disclosed her relationship with Q&D and since the item was not awarding any contracts, she could vote on the item.

It was moved by Trustee Woodley and seconded by Trustee Rodriguez that **the Board of Trustees approves the Washoe County School District Capital Improvement Program, to include the 2022/23 'D' Major Projects Program in the amount of \$98,200,000 to provide for projects throughout the District.**

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.

4.03 **PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE REVISED WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR**

**2024-2028 FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN, AS
RECOMMENDED BY THE CAPITAL FUNDING PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

Mark Mathers, Chief Financial Officer, and Tami Zimmerman, Chief Facilities Management Officer, presented the 2024-2028 Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, as revised by the Capital Funding Protection Committee (CFPC). The CFPC made three changes to the Plan: the Incline High School renovation project, as a donor-funded project, was moved to Year 1; the issuance of \$60 million in rollover bonds was moved from FY23 to FY24; and keeping the Central Administration Building Project in Year 3 as opposed to Year 2 that the Board had proposed because they believed there were additional school-based projects that should be prioritized.

Trustee Church asked if the District could afford to add the Administration Project with existing funds. Mr. Mathers stated they could.

Trustee Church indicated he was interested in seeing parts of the Administration Building Project moved up so the project would be ready to go in Year 3, such as identifying a location and having a design created.

Trustee Rodriguez asked what school-based projects the CFPC were focusing on over the Administration Building Project. Ms. Zimmerman mentioned the CFPC was concerned adding the project could strain the current construction industry in the area since they were focused on numerous school-based projects.

President Smith indicated, as the person who proposed moving the project up, she was satisfied with the outcome of the CFPC. She appreciated the conversation of the committee and the thought they put into their decision.

The Trustees discussed the importance of getting the new Administration Building Project moving forward but appreciated the discussion of the CFPC. They hoped the committee would continue to review the project in the future and move forward if any aspects of the project could be completed sooner.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

Pablo Nava Duran remarked that he would like to see all school projects completed before the District looked at a new Administration Building. He understood the building was built in the 1960s, but he knew there were also a number of schools built in the 1960s as well.

It was moved by Trustee Mayberry and seconded by Trustee Nicolet that **the Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation of the Capital Funding Protection Committee and approves the Washoe County School District's Revised Fiscal**

Year 2024-2028 Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan. 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 20 minutes.

4.04 PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO CONSIDER, ADOPT, AND/OR AMEND THE DRAFT STUDENT BEHAVIOR MANUAL FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Dr. Paul LaMarca, Chief Strategies Officer, provided a brief presentation to update the Board on the progress of the District on the revisions to the Behavior Manual. The intent was to allow the Board to provide comments and additional changes, then bring back a final draft for review in July for the Board to provide preliminary approval to so it could be sent to the schools for review by their progressive discipline committees. The intent was to have final adoption of the Manual in September. He reviewed the changes made at prior meetings. It was important to remember the primary audiences of the Manual were school principals, but the District planned to develop guides for staff, families, and students to improve clarity in expectations. The current draft included approved legislation from the 2023 Nevada Legislative Session and input from both Washoe Schools Principals Association (WSPA) and Washoe Education Association (WEA).

Trustee Rodriguez appreciated the revisions made since the May meeting; however he was not sure the document went far enough in terms of protecting both students and staff. He believed there had to be stricter consequences for serious infractions, such as sexual assault. He added the section related to COVID should be removed. He was also interested in seeing school level manuals because the consequences for a 6-year-old had to be different than the consequences for a 16-year-old. Dr. LaMarca agreed the manual needed to do a better job of aligning language to what was included in statute because there were mismatches. He was also interested in looking at the differences in consequences for first offenses versus third offenses and habitual discipline. The language surrounding COVID did need to be revised because the section was intended to cover any communicable diseases. The references were to COVID because prior to the pandemic, the section did not exist in the manual. He was also interested in seeing distinctions based on developmental ages but was unclear how to include specifics while keeping the manual a reasonable length and allowing for principal discretion.

Neil Rombardo, Chief General Counsel, indicated the definitions in the manual should be reviewed to ensure the behaviors and action were similar to the definitions in law enforcement so everyone was clear.

President Smith explained how the discussion portion of the agenda item would be handled and that she would be taking notes to determine where there was consensus among the Trustees so that could be incorporated into a motion at the conclusion of the discussion and public comment.

Trustee Mayberry agreed with Trustee Rodriguez and appreciated some of the clarifications provided. He was concerned the manual did not go far enough to protect staff in terms of some first offenses. Dr. LaMarca echoed the desire to ensure the consequences for certain first offenses were appropriate, especially those tied to violent events. Where the District would succeed in working to improve student behavior was in the implementation of the manual, so it would be critical for school site administrators to receive consistent and appropriate training.

Trustee Westlake expressed concern over including students as part of the development of classroom and school-wide behavioral expectations. She wanted to see adults be the adults and guide the students. She felt the use of professional judgement on the part of principals was problematic because the intent was to ensure there was consistency in the implementation of the manual. She would like to see the parents of both the victims and the perpetrator notified and included in the discussions, especially for minor events. Finally, she urged increased use of temporary, alternative placement (TAP) for disruptive students to allow the remainder of the class the opportunity to learn without distraction. She noted TAP could also mean a different location within the same school and she could support increased inclusion of that option. Dr. LaMarca explained best practices in terms of student voice was to include students in setting expectations in terms of classroom and school-wide expectations. He noted students were often harsher critics of other students when they are provided the opportunity to have input in the process because they learn the expectations as they set them. He agreed that it was important to have consistency between classrooms and schools, but it was also important to allow the principals some latitude because what might seem black and white on paper could be very nuanced.

Trustee Church mentioned he did not see much difference between the current version and previous versions. He would like to see something that showed the commitment of the Board to discipline bad behavior. He felt the term "teacher" should be "staff" so it was clear the bus driver had the same authority as a teacher, that police should be called and the option to file a report or press charges provided, information on restraining orders needed to be included, and what should occur if parents did not show up to meetings. He wanted to utilize suspension as much as possible, if it was needed. He requested clarification on why each school had progressive discipline committees. He indicated the entire draft needed to go back to the drawing board. Dr. LaMarca noted school progressive discipline committees were required under Nevada Revised Statutes and the desire in the District was to strengthen the roles and responsibilities of those committees to allow for greater flexibility if there was disagreement between the

staff member and administrator on consequences. He expressed appreciation for all the feedback and would review the manual to ensure there was consistency in language.

Trustee Rodriguez asked for information on "restore at the door." Dr. LaMarca explained restore at the door meant the administrator would go to the classroom instead of the student going to the administrator. Additional details and options used in restore at the door were provided.

Trustee Nicolet requested additional information on the three different committees included in the manual and if those committees were required at each school. Dr. LaMarca provided additional information on the committees, which were actually only two committees for each school related to behavior and discipline. There were other committees required at the schools under Nevada Revised Statutes.

Trustee Nicolet noted there was a section on page 51 of the draft that required the board of trustees of a county school district to notify certain people who might have contact with a student. She wondered how the Board accomplished that notification. Dr. LaMarca mentioned the statute referred to was also known as "Duty to Warn." The process had been delegated to School Police, who would warn a school of a student returning to the school who had committed certain crimes within the past 3 years.

Trustee Nicolet appreciated the information. She commented that she was concerned with the timeline because it seemed rushed. She liked the inclusion of student voice because it allowed even the youngest students to help in the making of the rules, which could then be reviewed if someone was not following them. She would like to see a glossary included so everyone had the same understanding of terms and salient references included to ground everyone in the requirements.

Trustee Woodley indicated that it was clear from the discussion the Trustees were interested in seeing a progressive approach to discipline in terms of first offenses, second offenses, and so on. He personally believed the consequences had to be separate and distinct, with the consequences for subsequent offenses being "worse." He felt there had to be consistency between schools as well in terms of what those consequences were. Dr. LaMarca highlighted the challenges between consistency between schools and providing administrators with latitude.

President Smith opened the meeting to public comment.

Calen Evans, President, Washoe Education Association (WEA), thanked the Board for the emphasis they put on the manual and to staff for the work they had put into the document. He indicated WEA had requested the tight timeline because they wanted to ensure something was in place as close to the start of the school year as possible. He

pledged to be as available as he needed to be so the document reflected the voices of the teachers and their desires.

Colbee Riordan, President-elect, Washoe School Principals Association (WSPA), echoed the comments of Mr. Evans. She spoke of receiving the results of the parent climate survey and the frustration of reading comments about children's learning time being interrupted. She was aware of the numerous challenges in developing a document that to address student discipline while following all laws and regulations, but it was important to ensure administrators were able to provide appropriate consequences and allow other students the opportunity to continue to learn. She spoke of the challenges elementary schools faced in working with students with behavioral issues because they could cause as much damage as a high school student in a short amount of time. She appreciated the collaboration with the Office of Strategies in working through various scenarios.

Roger Edwards believed it was important for the Board to focus on quality of education, which would not occur if teachers were unable to teach because they were "dodging chairs." He did not think the timeline was as important as everyone kept saying it was because it was more important to get the manual right so it would be effective. He was interested in hearing more from the principals about what they wanted because they had to implement the manual. He did not believe it was appropriate to have outside groups, such as WEA, included in the development of the document because the people did not vote for them.

President Smith expressed her appreciation for all the work and people involved in the revision of the behavior manual. She noted when she originally pulled the manual off the Consent Agenda in November 2022, she was interested in seeing a thorough review. She believed that had occurred and that the current document was better than prior versions and that when the Board approved a final document, it would be better than what the Trustees approved today.

It was moved by Trustee Woodley and seconded by Trustee Rodriguez that **the Board of Trustees directs the Superintendent to integrate differentiation where possible with age-appropriate responses, additional feedback from individual staff and labor associations, more parental/guardian involvement, an enhanced introduction statement, and a review of opportunities for delineations between progressive consequences of incidents and other related guidance from the discussion in the next iteration of the behavior manual and host small group meetings for Trustees prior to the next hearing of this item.**

President Smith opened the motion for discussion.

Trustee Church expressed frustration that the feedback of the Trustees was not included in the motion, but the voices of staff and labor associations were.

President Smith disagreed and believed the motion was reflective of the conversation; however, she was willing to request a friendly amendment to include language the "Trustees' discussion."

Trustee Woodley, as the maker of the motion, agreed. Trustee Rodriguez, as the seconder of the motion, also agreed.

Trustee Church requested clarification on what an "enhanced introduction statement" would be. Dr. LaMarca mentioned he took copious notes and believed he had the intent the Trustees were looking regarding an enhanced statement.

Trustee Church asked if the Trustees were able to email comments directly to Dr. LaMarca. Mr. Rombardo cautioned Trustees against emailing or contacting Dr. LaMarca with specific suggestions or recommendations. He explained Dr. LaMarca could only take direction from Board actions, which required a vote of the Board during a public meeting. He emphasized that any small group briefings held for the Trustees could not include input from the Trustees, but that the Trustees could ask questions of staff.

Trustee Westlake requested clarification on if the Trustees could send their comments to Superintendent Enfield. Mr. Rombardo stated if the Trustees were trying to get something changed in the document, then that discussion should occur during a public meeting. The Trustees could express their concerns, but the Superintendent and staff were under no obligation to take those concerns into account unless there was a majority vote.

The amended final motion was: **The Board of Trustees directs the Superintendent to integrate differentiation where possible with age-appropriate responses, additional feedback from individual staff and labor associations, more parental/guardian involvement, an enhanced introduction statement, a review of opportunities for delineations between progressive consequences of incidents, and other related guidance from trustees from this discussion in the next iteration of the behavior manual and host small group meetings for trustees prior to the next hearing of this item.** 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.

5. Reports

5.01 BOARD REPORTS

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

5.02 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Deputy Superintendent Seng-Dao Keo reported on her activities including meetings with staff, community leaders, and the media.

6. Closing Items

6.01 PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

6.02 NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next Regular Meeting would take place on Tuesday, July 25, 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 6:05 p.m.

Elizabeth Smith, President

Joseph Rodriguez, Clerk