

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 2018  
SAFE AND HEALTHY SCHOOLS  
COMMISSION MEETING**

February 5, 2018

**1. Opening Items**

**1.01 Call to Order**

The meeting of the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission was called to order at 2:02 p.m. at the Washoe County School District Central Administration Building, 425 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada.

**1.02 Roll Call**

Chair Lisa Ruggerio and Commission Members Marci Burke, Charlene Bybee, Jeff Frame, Tyler Johnson, Amber Joiner, Mia Mansfield, Manuel Mederos, Michael Munda, Scot Munns, Diane Nicolet, and Misty Vaughn Allen were present. Commission Member Jim Nadeau was present through teleconference. Commission Members Darin Balaam and Trish Tucker were absent from the meeting.

**1.03 Pledge of Allegiance**

Dr. Kristen McNeill, Deputy Superintendent, led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1.04 Public Comment**

There was no public comment at this time.

**1.05 Action to Adopt the Agenda**

Chair Ruggerio requested Agenda Item 3.02, Chair Report, be moved to the beginning of the agenda.

It was moved by Commissioner Joiner and seconded by Commissioner Nicolet that **the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission moves Agenda Item 3.02 to the beginning of the agenda and approves the agenda as revised.** The result of the vote was Unanimous. Final Resolution: Motion Carries

**3. Updates and Recognitions**

**3.02 Chair Report**

Chair Ruggiero provided the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission with information related to events and meetings in the community and District relevant to the Commission.

## **2. Items for Presentation, Discussion, Information and/or Action**

### **2.01 Approval of minutes of the December 4, 2017 meeting of the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission**

It was moved by Commissioner Bybee and seconded by Commissioner Burke that **the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission**. The result of the vote was Unanimous. Final Resolution: Motion Carries

### **2.02 Informational update on school safety and security projects at school facilities, to include but not limited to door lock hardware, single-point-entry, and secure perimeter fencing**

Joe Gabica, Interim Chief Facilities Management Officer, introduced Adam Searcy, who would be the new Chief Capital Projects and Facilities Management Officer. An update on safety and security projects occurring within the Capital Projects Department was provided. In August 2017, 17 schools remained on the list for the classroom door lock project; at the current time, 6 schools were remaining. The 2 schools left for updates to closed circuit television (CCTV) were occurring and should be completed soon. Single-point-entry projects were in design at 9 elementary schools and the Glenn Hare Center, leaving 15 remaining elementary schools. The remaining secure perimeter fencing projects were at 6 middle schools. An analysis was underway to determine the upgrades needed for public address systems. Finally, the pilot project for the door numbering project was complete and being reviewed by School Police and other local emergency responders to determine what changes needed to be made.

Commissioners requested additional information from School Police on the door numbering project. School Police Chief Jason Trevino explained that first responders might not know the names or locations of certain parts of a school, such as where a playground was located. The intent was to ensure the numbers on the doors were large enough to see from the side streets so emergency vehicles to respond quickly. School Police wanted to ensure the numbering system was consistent at all schools so there would not be confusion if there was an emergency at any school. Once the system was set up as intended by School Police, other first responders would be invited to tour the site to provide their feedback, then the costs for each school determined and projects bid out. He noted that the door numbers would be located on the interior and exterior of the buildings.

Chair Ruggiero remarked that some principals were frustrated that the door numbering project was taking so long. The information provided by School Police explained the reasons and she wondered if that information could be communicated to the principals and others in the District and community. Mr. Gabica added that the District had various school designs so each school design would need to have a pilot program done. Additional pilots would not take as long, but still needed to occur. The District was starting with the most common elementary school design and would move down the list from there. Completion of the project would depend on how long it took to finalize the design and then bid the projects out.

Commissioner Mederos wondered if the outdoor areas of a school would also be numbered. Chief Trevino commented that the District would have to look into doing something for fields when the project was started at the high schools since there were multiple outdoor areas. The elementary and middle schools did not have as many outdoor areas so that was not a concern. The school where the pilot program occurred did have mobile classrooms, so the District was able to include the mobiles in the program and determine how they would be numbered.

**2.03 Approval to recommend to the Superintendent the continued use of Panorama Education to conduct the Annual Climate Survey in the amount of \$49,000 to provide the District with data to help measure progress and maintain accountability on all goals and objectives in the Strategic Plan**

Dr. Laura Davidson, Director of Research and Evaluation, provided the Commission with background information on the Annual Climate Survey used by the District. Panorama Education provided site specific PDF reports to each school and the community on the results. The information was also available on-line and could be reviewed by subpopulation or group and other factors. The Office of Accountability was requesting the Commission continue to recommend the District utilize Panorama Education for the Climate Survey.

Commissioner Mederos wondered why the District would need PDF versions of the reports if the information was available on-line. Dr. Davidson explained that the PDF versions were available to the entire community. On-line access was only available to school sites and certain District-level administrators. Some community organizations would use the information in their development of grants or their own programming needs.

Commissioner Bybee asked if the \$49,000 was an on-going cost. Dr. Davidson stated that it was and that Panorama Education provide the District with a large discount because the District used the information for various reports and to develop programming

that helped students, especially programming related to Social and Emotional Learning (SEL).

Commissioner Nicolet remarked that the information was important but she was not sure if the item should be coming to the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission for recommendation. She was concerned about recommending approval of funds when she did not know what the total budget for safety and healthy projects was. David Lasic, Chief of Staff, indicated that the community needed to be aware of what the District was doing with the information and staff felt having the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission champion the survey and results was important. The General Fund for the District had about \$400,000 set aside for safe and healthy schools projects. Around half of the funds were committed to the School Safety Advocacy Council for the safety audit and then additional funds were recommended to pay for District staff to attend the National Bullying Conference since it would be held in Reno.

Commissioner Burke commented that if community organizations were utilizing the survey results, then those organizations should pay for the service. Mr. Lasic noted the Climate Survey was created so the individual school sites would have information on their buildings. Community organizations were also able to use the District-wide composite when they developed programs for the District. The schools used the information primarily to help close achievement gaps.

Commissioner Mederos wondered if the Commission should include their brand to the reports so the community would know they were providing the information. Other members of the Commission felt that it was not really appropriate to come from a single entity of the District, but it should come from the District itself.

Chair Ruggerio remarked that community organizations did use the information from the Climate Survey to develop supports for the students and enhance District programming. She believed the Commission should recommend the money come from the safe and healthy budget line item because it was relevant to the work of the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission. For example, Joint Together Northern Nevada and the Office of Suicide Prevention used the information to help serve the students, staff, and families of the District. The role of the Commission was to collaborate and ensure positive relationships within the community and the Climate Survey helped with that.

It was moved by Commissioner Mansfield and seconded by Commissioner Vaughn Allen that **the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission recommends the Superintendent continue the agreement with Panorama Education to conduct the Annual Climate Survey in the amount of \$49,000.** The result of the vote was Unanimous. Final Resolution: Motion Carries

## **2.04 Information on the upcoming Data Summit and Strength in Voices student data conference**

Dr. Laura Davidson, Director of Research and Evaluation, provided an update on the Strength in Voices student data conference. The day was intended for students to come together from all over the District to share their stories and review data relevant to them. She noted Commissioner Johnson, as the Student Representative, would be leading the safety forum aspect of the day. Around 500 people would be invited to the event, with 250-300 of the invitees being students. The Data Summit would be combined with the Strength in Voices conference. The intent was to have students lead all the focus sessions, with the assistance from staff if needed.

Commissioner Johnson presented information on the safety forum aspect of the Strength in Voices conference. It was important to allow the students to look at the data and provide information on their thoughts on safety in the individual schools. The intent was to allow for conversations on not only the physical safety of the schools, but have conversations on mental and emotional safety as well, such as bullying.

Michelle Hammond, Student Voice Coordinator, explained that, for the first time, selected elementary school students would be invited to participate in a smaller version of the conference geared towards them. The schools selected currently had strong Student Voice programs and provided the ideas for topics for their breakout sessions. The goal was to establish a student conference for the elementary schools, but it was important to look at if the program would be feasible first.

## **3. Updates and Recognitions**

### **3.02 Chair Report**

Chair Ruggiero reopened the Chair Report to allow for remarks by Superintendent Traci Davis.

*Chair Ruggiero recessed the meeting for 10 minutes.*

## **2. Items for Presentation, Discussion, Information and/or Action**

### **2.05 Information and Update on community safety forum**

Irene Payne, Chief Communications and Community Engagement Officer, provided the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission with an update on the planning of the community safety forum. The forum was scheduled for Friday, April 27, 2018 and would be conducted at Truckee Meadows Community College, Dandini Campus. Based on prior

conversations with the Commission, the intent would be to conduct the forum in the morning, with a format similar to the Data Summit.

Coleen DeLong, Community Engagement Specialist, reviewed some proposed topics for the table-top discussions. The topics were similar to what the Commission had previously used and it would be important to determine if there should be any changes made to the topics. Information was provided on prior year topics and the individuals from the District who provided information to the community members in attendance.

Chair Ruggerio remarked that the timing of the event might be difficult for parents to attend, but she felt the time would allow for more community members and organizations to attend. She believed it was important to engage the community organizations more so they could take back the information to others and explain the work that was actually occurring in the District.

Ms. Payne requested clarification on who the primary audience would be for the safety forum: the parents or community organizations. Chair Ruggerio mentioned prior conversations had noted the timing of the event could be difficult for parents, but as long as the event was marked primarily for community organizations then people would understand. Parents should be included in any invitation, but the focus would be more towards organizations.

*Commission Marci Burke left the meeting at 3:22 p.m.*

## **2.06 Presentation and Discussion on National Bullying Conference to be held in Reno**

David Lasic, Chief of Staff, provided the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission with information on the upcoming National Bullying Conference. The Conference was being organized by the School Safety Advocacy Council, the safety auditor hired by the District. Since the event was to be held in Reno, numerous District staff would be able to attend and participate.

## **3. Updates and Recognitions**

### **3.01 Community Recognitions**

The Safe and Healthy Schools Commission recognized the efforts of the Transportation Department for keeping students safe while getting them to and from school throughout the year.

## **4. Closing Items**

**4.01 PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

**4.02 NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The next meeting of the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission would be held on Monday, March 5, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Central Administration Building.

**4.03 ADJOURN MEETING**

There being no further business to come before the members of the Commission, Chair Ruggiero declared the meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

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**Lisa Ruggiero, Chair**