

**MINUTES OF THE JUNE 4, 2018
SAFE AND HEALTHY SCHOOLS
COMMISSION MEETING**

June 4, 2018

1. Opening Items

1.01 Call to Order

The meeting of the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission was called to order at 2:00 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 Tyler Johnson, Scott Benton, Misty Vaughan Allen, Charlene Bybee, Marci Burke, Jeff Frame, Diane Nicolet, and Manuel Mederos were present. Commission Members Darin Balaam, Michael Munda, Jim Nadeau, Scot Munns, Amber Joiner, and Mia Mansfield were absent from the meeting.

1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

Jennifer Snyder led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.04 Public Comment

Jennifer Snyder, Join Together Northern Nevada (JTNN), presented the Commission with information on Naloxone training. Naloxone was a drug that could reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. JTNN was providing a free training on how to use Naloxone and invited members of the Commission to attend.

1.05 Action to Adopt the Agenda

It was moved by Commissioner Mederos and seconded by Commissioner Bybee that **the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission approves the agenda as presented**. The result of the vote was Unanimous: Pass (Yea: Lisa Ruggerio, Tyler Johnson, Scott Benton, Misty Vaughan Allen, Charlene Bybee, Marci Burke, Jeff Frame, Diane Nicolet, and Manuel Mederos). Final Resolution: Motion Carries

2. Updates

2.01 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.

2.02 Student Representative Update

Tyler Johnson provided the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission with information related to discussions and meetings from the Student Advisory Board.

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

3.01 Election of Chair and Vice Chair beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019 from among the following members: Darin Balaam, Scott Benton, Marci Burke, Charlene Bybee, Jeffrey Frame, Amber Joiner, Mia Mansfield, Manuel Mederos, Michael Munda, Scot Munns, Jim Nadeau, Diane Nicolet, Lisa Ruggiero, and Misty Vaughan Allen

Chair Ruggiero opened the floor for nominations for Chair.

Commissioner Burke nominated Lisa Ruggiero. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Frame.

No other nominations were received.

It was moved by Commissioner Burke and seconded by Commissioner Frame that **the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission selects Lisa Ruggiero as Chair of the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission for the 2018-19 School Year.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: Pass (Yea: Lisa Ruggiero, Tyler Johnson, Scott Benton, Misty Vaughan Allen, Charlene Bybee, Marci Burke, Jeff Frame, Diane Nicolet, and Manuel Mederos). Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Chair Ruggiero opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Burke nominated Misty Vaughan Allen. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Frame.

No other nominations were received.

It was moved by Commissioner Burke and seconded by Commissioner Frame that **the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission selects Misty Vaughan Allen as Vice-Chair of the Safe and Healthy Schools Commission for the 2018-19 School Year.** The result of the vote was Unanimous: Pass (Yea: Lisa Ruggiero, Tyler Johnson,

Scott Benton, Misty Vaughan Allen, Charlene Bybee, Marci Burke, Jeff Frame, Diane Nicolet, and Manuel Mederos). Final Resolution: Motion Carries

3.02 Update on Capital Projects related to school safety, including single-point entry, door numbering, and electronic visitor management system

Tami Zimmerman, Deputy Chief Facilities Management Officer, presented an update on the status of certain capital projects related to school safety. The remaining 13 schools on the list for the Columbine-style door locks would be completed soon since the project was now fully funded. Additionally, the remaining 24 elementary schools without single-point entry would have the project completed within 2 years and all secure perimeter projects at elementary schools were complete. Eight middle schools still required the secure perimeter, but the District anticipated those would be completed during the 2018-19 School Year. An assessment would be conducted to determine how best to move forward with the public address and intercom systems in the schools and close-circuit television (CCTV) cameras had been installed in all middle and high schools. The beta test of the door numbering project at Bernice Mathews Elementary School was complete and the District was currently looking at different options to roll out the project in-house.

The Commissioners wondered how long the door numbering project would take to complete. Ms. Zimmerman indicated that the intent was to have the project completed within a year at elementary schools that were the same floor plan as Bernice Mathews Elementary School, but the timeline was also dependent on the finalized plans and if the work could be completed by District staff. If the District did have to contract the project out, they were not concerned with when the work could occur because it could be completed during the school year.

3.03 Presentation and update from School Safety Advocacy Council on status of Safety Audit findings and recommendations, to include but not limited to staff trainings and rechecks of schools

Jim Hendrickson, Emergency Manager, reviewed projects that had come out of the District-wide Safety Audit. School Police was currently looking at ways to improve staff training opportunities, including the development of videos that could be viewed when staff completed other training required by the District. He noted that School Police was also reviewing fire alarm procedures based on recent events in Florida and Texas to determine if a change was needed to where people did not automatically leave a room or building when an alarm was activated.

Curt Lavarello, Executive Director, School Safety Advocacy Council, explained they had been completing the assessments included in the current contract and conducting some re-checks of schools previously assessed on their visit. He noted there were opportunities

for the District to standardize processes and procedures related to emergencies through District regulations. He expressed appreciation for the innovative training options and recommended the District look at ways to track who was trained and then if people were able to retain the information.

Mr. Lavarello provided information learned from the recent events at schools in Florida and Texas. While single-point entry was important during the day, schools also needed to consider how school properties were accessed at the beginning and end of the school day when a lot of people were coming and going from the property. One lesson that the Washoe County School District had already implemented was inter-agency communication, especially with other law enforcement agencies and first responders. In terms of mental health, it was critical to continue to conduct follow-ups with students considered at-risk, even after graduation. Though there were concerns about how far school districts could legally go in tracking students, especially after graduation or if they dropped out. Diversion programs within the community were important places where additional wrap-around services could be accessed by teens and young adults. While door locks were an important safety feature, schools needed to ensure the doors were actually locked during the day. Since the events in Florida and Texas were so recent, more recommendations would come in the future after additional reviews had occurred, especially by state legislatures, many of which were already looking at changes to their laws.

Sean Burke, President, School Safety Advocacy Council, stated he and Mr. Lavarello had received numerous calls from school districts after the recent events and used the Washoe County School District as an example of what other school districts should consider. He noted that while there were still challenges, the District was far ahead of many places in the development and implementation of programs and policies to address student physical and emotional safety and security.

Some Commissioners expressed concern with possible changes to fire alarm procedures. Mr. Lavarello mentioned that in Florida the smoke from the gun being fired was what set the fire alarms off. Everyone in the United States had been conditioned to leave the room building when the alarms were activated, so if there were to be changes in the process it would take a community effort. Mr. Hendrickson added that the intent of any change was not to place students or staff in danger, but to have people stop and think before automatically leaving. He was interested in training staff to add a momentary pause before just leaving to smell for smoke, look for flames, and listen for something that was out of the ordinary. Changes to the process would not occur immediately, but discussions were happening to determine if there did need to be a change.

The Commissioners agreed that the District should be cautious of reacting immediately to events because there consequences that needed to be considered.

Chair Ruggerio recessed the meeting for 5 minutes.

3.04 Review and discussion of proposed “Washoe County School District Emergency Procedures Guide” for staff, students, and families

Jim Hendrickson, Emergency Manager, explained the intent behind the proposed Emergency Procedures Guide, which was to provide information to students and families on what should occur in the schools during an emergency. The information was included in the Student Handbook as well.

JJ Batchelder, Board Services Coordinator, mentioned members of the Board of Trustees and Safe and Healthy Schools Commission would hear from parents and the community that they would like additional communications from the District during emergencies. The goal of the Guide was to inform parents ahead of time of what they could expect to occur during an emergency and the type of information they could expect to receive from the District.

The Commission reviewed the information and provided input on the proposed content.

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 August 13, 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 Ruggerio declared the meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Lisa Ruggerio, Chair