



Washoe County School District Student Attendance Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

September 1, 2018

1. Opening Items

1.01 Call to Order

The meeting of the Student Attendance Advisory Committee was called to order at 9:05 a.m. at the Children's Cabinet, 1090 So. Rock Blvd., Reno, NV.

1.02 Roll Call

Jason Trevino, Keri Pruitt, Roger Bahten and Elizabeth Florez were present at roll call. Lance Mezger, Charles Aglubat, Lacey Keele were not present. Staff Liaison Rechelle Murillo and staff were also present.

1.03 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. Discussion, Presentation and Action Items

2.01 ACTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA

On motion by Roger Bahten, seconded by Liz Florez, the Student Attendance Advisory Committee approved the agenda as presented (Yea: Jason Trevino, Liz Florez, Keri Pruitt, Roger Bahten). Final Resolution: Motion Carries 4-0

2.02 **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SELECT A CHAIRPERSON FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM ENDING JUNE 30, 2019**

On motion by Liz Florez, seconded by Keri Pruitt, the Student Attendance Advisory Committee tabled consideration and possible action to select a Chairperson until the December 7, 2018 meeting (Yea: Jason Trevino, Keri Pruitt, Roger, Liz Florez) Final Resolution: Motion carries 4-0

2.03 **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SELECT A VICE-CHAIRPERSON FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM ENDING JUNE 30, 2019**

On motion by Liz Florez, seconded by Keri Pruitt, the Student Attendance Advisory Committee tabled consideration and possible action to select a Vice-Chairperson until the December 7, 2018 meeting (Yea: Jason Trevino, Keri Pruitt, Roger, Liz Florez) Final Resolution: Motion carries 4-0

**2.04 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE STUDENT ATTENDANCE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING FROM JUNE 1, 2018**

On motion by Keri Pruitt, seconded by Roger Bahten, the Student Attendance Advisory Committee approved the minutes of the June 1, 2018 meeting (Yeas: Jason Trevino, Liz Florez, Keri Pruitt, Roger Bahten) Motion carries 4-0

**2.05 PRESENTATION AND UPDATE REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
PILOT ATTENDANCE MESSAGING PROGRAM (AMP)**

Ms. Murillo, Coordinator of the District's Intervention Department, gave an update on the Attendance Messaging Program with eleven confirmed elementary schools on board to participate. The Accountability Department, Communications Department and Information Technology Department worked to develop a cache of positive messages to send parents/guardians when their children are absent from school to encourage the importance of daily school attendance. Most parents will continue to receive telephone calls through ConnectEd but parents/guardians with students having an attendance rate of 93% or less text messages will be sent in effort to increase communication and engagement with the school to help students develop good attendance habits. During the month of September the United Way will be running a Be There campaign in effort to communicate to all families the importance good attendance plays for student success in school.

**2.06 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION FROM THE WASHOE COUNTY
JUVENILE SERVICES AGENCY IN REGARD TO COLLABORATION WITH WCSO
TO SUPPORT STUDENTS AROUND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

Ms. Florez introduced Joe Saiz, a program manager at Jan Evans Juvenile Justice Center, who reported on the work of a team of staff members from the juvenile justice system and the school district who meet weekly to review students who are considered highest risk and highest needs to determine school placement and supports needed to help them re-engage back into school after pro-longed incarceration.

**2.07 PRESENTATION AND UPDATE ON THE WORK OF THE STUDENT
ATTENDANCE REVIEW BOARD**

Ms. Murillo reported statistics for the 2017/18 school year for SARB's and 20-Day Attendance Monitors. During the school year staff were asked to meet with and mentor students on formal monitors one time weekly during the monitor period and then help the student make a connection with a school staff person who could continue to mentor the student for good attendance. Due to many SARB/ESARB no shows and

cancellations last year the Intervention Department will be notifying school staff of scheduled SARBs/ESARBs via Outlook appointment invitations, sending reminders to school staff, and Attendance Officers will perform home visits a few days prior to scheduled hearings in effort to reduce the high rate of no show to appointments.

2.08 PRESENTATION ON THE NEW WCSD ATTENDANCE POLICY AND CHANGES FOR THE 2018/19 SCHOOL YEAR

Ms. Murillo reported nationally and statewide districts previously focused on evaluation of Average Daily Attendance (ADA) statistics to determine attendance rates, but it has been determined ADA can mask chronic absenteeism issues. The State of Nevada determined the district had a chronic absenteeism rate of 19% for school year 2017/18. The Student Accounting Department changed policy and procedure for district attendance codes and reporting that they hope will lead to better overall school attendance.

2.09 DISCUSSION TO SET GOALS RELATED TO REVIEWING EFFECTIVENESS OF CURRENT PROGRAMS

Members present discussed the possibility of doing a presentation to the Board of Trustees on what the committee and community agencies involved do to support decreasing chronic absenteeism. More discussion will follow. No action taken.

3. Closing Items

3.01 Announcement of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Student Attendance Advisory Council will be December 7, 2018, 9:00 a.m. at the Children's Cabinet, 1090 So. Rock Blvd., Reno, Nevada

3.02 Public Comment There was no public comment at this time.

3.03 Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.