

# CHURCHILL COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Fallon, Nevada

## REGULAR MEETING

January 22, 2015

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Evans called to order the regular meeting of the Churchill County School District Board of Trustees at 7:00 p.m. at the Churchill County School District Administration Office, 690 South Maine Street, Fallon, Nevada.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **CHARACTER COUNTS BI-MONTHLY WORD: RESPONSIBILITY**

Addison Smith and Colton Hoffmann (5<sup>th</sup> grade students from Mrs. Solinski's class, Numa Elementary School) led the pledge of allegiance and said a few words about the character counts word "Responsibility."

### **VERIFICATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA**

President Evans confirmed the posting of the agenda.

### **ROLL CALL**

#### **Trustees Present**

President Ron Evans  
Vice President Hendrix  
Trustee Nunn  
Trustee Rich Gent  
Trustee Carmen Schank  
Trustee Koenig  
Trustee Hyde

#### **Others Present**

Dr. Sandra Sheldon  
Phyllis Dowd, Director of Business Services  
Sharla Hales, Legal Counsel  
Kimi Melendy, Director of Educational Services  
Sharla Hales, Legal Counsel  
Debra Shyne, Secretary  
(Interested Staff/Community Members per Attached List)

### **REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Mr. Evans stated that he had a request to pull 9C. The rest of the agenda was adopted under unanimous consent.

### **LEGAL COUNSEL UPDATE**

#### **A. Ms. Sharla Hales, Legal Counsel, will discuss with the Board the requirements for attending meetings via telephone.**

Ms. Hales stated that it was difficult to hear Trustee Schank at the last Board meeting, as she attended via teleconference. She stated that staff is working on enhancing the ability to teleconference for Board meetings. Ms. Hales suggests that teleconferencing by Board Members for meetings should not occur until the system is upgraded for better communication.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jim Falk, Board Member of Citizens for Sound Academic Standards, commented on the Common Core Symposium. Bob Clifford stated that he sent an email to the Board which was a response to statements made by Superintendent Erquiaga. Mr. Clifford also spoke regarding common core. Amber Sanchez spoke regarding the Common Core Symposium.

## **RECOGNITION**

- B. The Board will recognize Kristina Moore, Churchill County Agriculture Teacher, for receiving the 2014 Nevada Agriscience Teacher of the Year and the Nevada Ag in the Classroom Volunteer of the Year awards.**

The Board recognized Kristina Moore.

- C. The Board will recognize Churchill County High School Career and Technical Education (CTE) Teachers, as the month of February is Career and Technical Education Month.**

The Board of Trustees recognized Career and Technical Education teachers. Fred Buckmaster, Karen Lawson, Kristina Moore and Chip Rutledge were present. District CTE teachers are: Elaine Adams, Fred Buckmaster, Dan Combo, Richard Evans, Karen Lawson, Steve McMorris, Louie Mori, Richard Evans, Chip Rutledge, Melissa Osterhage, and Sue VanPatten.

## **CCSD STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Paola Duenas was not present.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

- A. Update regarding district-related matters.**

Dr. Sheldon updated the Board regarding the Governor's State of the State address. Dr. Sheldon reported that a representative from the Carson City School District was present at the District's recent Technology, Media and Resources Committee meeting to discuss how they rolled out their one-to-one device program.

The Department of Education published a list of low achieving schools. Numa Elementary School was on that list because Numa is a Focus School. The schools on that list will not necessarily be the schools associated with the "Achievement District." The governor is determined to restructure and reform schools in Nevada because Nevada is 49 out of 50 for school performance.

Dr. Sheldon stated that Western Nevada College (WNC) was contacted regarding the Advisory Board that the Board has been involved with in the past. WNC has restructured their Advisory Committee to a much more broad-based committee. There is no longer a Fallon Advisory Committee, so there is no need to provide a Board representative.

Dr. Sheldon stated that she included in the Board's packet a memo (BMAR-15) regarding the AESOP program that the District uses to manage employee absences (sick, annual and personal leave). It is also an automated substitute calling/placement program.

Dr. Sheldon reported that she and Ms. Melendy attended a meeting at the State level regarding Infinite Campus, a student database management system. Ninety percent of the students across Nevada are part of school districts that use Infinite Campus. Churchill currently uses PowerSchool. The state is asking that districts voluntarily change to Infinite Campus for consistency and compatibility reasons. The Nevada Department of Education has placed in its budget monies to assist in the migration of data to Infinite Campus; monies available during the next biennium. Currently the District spends approximately \$19,000 for PowerSchool whereas Infinite Campus is expected to cost \$23,000. The District is also paying some additional funds for special education IEP software that is included in Infinite Campus, so there might be some savings there. It is estimated to cost \$64,000 the first year for the cost of the program plus migration and training. The Department of Education will pick up much of that cost for the first year. The Department of Education is forming a steering committee of districts currently not utilizing Infinite Campus. Dr. Sheldon stated that she would keep the Board informed. Ms. Hales suggested that this item be placed on a future agenda if more discussion is desired.

**B. Update regarding Pay for Performance.**

Dr. Sheldon reported on Pay for Performance. The Governor has asked that the legislature require Districts to put money aside for Pay for Performance. Douglas County has a policy that states: "Should the legislature find explicit line item funding to support teacher pay for performance we propose the following." Dr. Sheldon suggested that the District wait to see if the legislature moves forward with this or makes changes in laws regarding Pay for Performance.

**BUSINESS SERVICES UPDATE**

- A. Bond Fund Report (written report provided).**
- B. Board Budget Report (written report provided).**
- C. Budget to Actual Report (written report provided).**
- D. Travel Report (written report provided).**
- E. Student Funds Quarterly Report (written report provided).**

Ms. Dowd stated that she provided the Budget to Actual Report as a handout. Ms. Dowd explained the report to the Board and answered Board questions.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICES UPDATE**

- A. The latest Student Enrollment Data will be provided to the Board of Trustees (written report provided).**
- B. October, November, December 2014 Violent Acts Report (written report provided).**
- C. School Performance Plans (written reports provided).**

There were no questions.

**UPCOMING BOARD EVENTS**

- A. January 23-24, Friday-Saturday, Nevada Association of School Boards 24-Hour School Board Member Orientation, Part I, Reno.**

- B. January 29, Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Board Budget Workshop, District Office.
- C. March 21-23, Sunday-Tuesday, National School Boards Association Annual Conference, Nashville, TN
- D. April 10-11, Friday-Saturday, Nevada Association of School Boards School Board member Orientation, Part II (location to be determined).

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Recommended Personnel Action (Attachment A).
- B. Approval of Vouchers.
- C. Approval of Class Size Reduction Report.
- D. Approval of Student 15-02 Exemption from receiving immunizations based on religious reasons (NRS 392.435).
- E. Approval of Student 15-03 to enter the General Education Development (GED) program.

Trustee Hendrix made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gent, ***to approve consent agenda Items A, B, D, and E.*** The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Gent voiced concern about the class size reduction report as he researched the issue on the Nevada Department of Education website to compare districts like Churchill, Lyon and Douglas and noted that Douglas County has about half the class sizes of Churchill. All counties spend about the same amount on instructional support, operations, leadership and total expenditures, so he questioned how they could afford to have small class sizes. Trustee Gent stated that he will request this as a Board Member Action Item later in the meeting.

Trustee Schank asked about 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at 25.3 to 1, and 5<sup>th</sup> 26.3 to 1, and asked if there is a limit. Kimi Melendy, Director of Educational Services, stated that she showed the numbers to the associations and is bringing it to the Board for approval so that she could submit the report to the state for final approval. Ms. Melendy commented that third grade is extremely high in numbers.

Trustee Hendrix made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gent, ***to approve consent agenda Item C.*** Dr. Sheldon stated that at any time if the Board feels the class size is too large, they can authorize another class be added to any grade level. The motion passed unanimously. Trustee Hyde asked if the Board could authorize an instructional aide. Dr. Sheldon stated that they could.

### **REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS**

Trustee Schank reported on the Common Core Symposium.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **For Discussion and Possible Action:** Regarding leasing the District's water rights or transferring the water rights to property within the District.

Ms. Dowd spoke with T.C.I.D. and learned that the District can petition the State Engineers Office to transfer water rights. For this coming year it may not be beneficial for the District because of the limited water in the reservoir. T.C.I.D. does not know if there will be more than one water distribution this year. The transfer process is a six to eight week process.

Ms. Dowd suggested the Board revisit this issue in late February when more information is known about the amount of water available for distribution.

Trustee Schank made a motion ***that in years with 100% water the District continues the process to lease to T.C.I.D., but in drought years when there is a water shortage that the District transfer water to other District property.*** There was no second so the motion died.

- B. For Discussion and Possible Action: The Board will determine the number of scholarships and the amount of money for the Churchill County Board of School Trustees Scholarship(s) for the 2014-2015 Seniors.**

Mr. Koenig stated that he would donate \$57 so that the total available for scholarships is \$2,000. Trustee Nunn made a motion, seconded by Trustee Koenig, ***to award four \$500 scholarships.*** The motion passed unanimously.

- C. For Discussion and Possible Action: Regarding rescheduling February's board meeting dates to February 5<sup>th</sup> and February 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Trustee Hendrix made a motion, seconded by Trustee Koenig, ***to change the February School Board Trustees Meetings to February 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.*** The motion passed 6:1, with Trustee Gent opposed. Trustee Gent is not available on one of the rescheduled meetings.

- D. For Discussion and Possible Action: Regarding separating the Budget Committee and Audit Committee.**

Trustee Nunn made a motion ***to un-merge the Budget and Audit Committees,*** seconded by Trustee Hendrix. The motion passed unanimously.

- E. For Discussion and Possible Action: Regarding whether the Policy Committee will be continued and if so, who will serve on the committee.**

Trustee Schank made a motion, seconded by Trustee Nunn, ***to continue the Policy Committee with two Board Members (Schank/Nunn).***

Public Comment: Nona McFarlane made comments in support of retaining the Policy Committee.

After a lengthy discussion, the motion passed 4:3, with Trustees Evans, Hendrix and Koenig opposed.

- F. For Discussion and Possible Action: Regarding agreed-upon procedures when Board Members have questions related to items on the consent agenda.**

After discussion, it was determined that Board members will make every effort to get their consent agenda item questions answered prior to the Board meeting. If the Board Member does not have enough time, they will make every effort to provide staff with the questions prior to the meeting. President Evans requested Board Members let him know at the beginning of the meeting if they want to pull an issue on the consent agenda.

**G. For Discussion and Possible Action: Regarding the number of Board Member Requests that a Trustee can have pending at one time.**

After discussion, Trustee Koenig made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gent, ***to limit the number of new BMARs per meeting per each Trustee to three.*** The motion passed 6:1, with Trustee Hendrix opposed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AS REQUESTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND CLARIFICATION OF REQUESTED AGENDA ITEMS**

Trustee Nunn requested BMAR-12 deleted regarding the Rio Vista property; BMAR-5 deleted and answered via email; BMAR-23 deleted as it will go before the Gym Committee and information will be presented to the Board at a later time; and BMAR-19 deleted regarding hiring an HR Director, as his request was premature.

Trustee Evans requested BMAR-4 deleted.

Trustee Gent stated that he compared class sizes from Douglas County and Churchill County and noted that Douglas has a lower student to teacher ratio, yet their funding is the same. Trustee Gent requested information regarding class sizes.

Trustee Schank requested discussion on uniforms and perhaps having one school have a pilot program.

Trustee Hendrix requested a status report update on the evaluations taken place on site by administrators.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Koenig made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gent, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:54 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

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Carmen, Schank, Clerk of the Board

*Prepared by Debra Shyne*