

CHURCHILL COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Fallon, Nevada

REGULAR MEETING

February 22, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

President Hendrix called to order the regular meeting of the Churchill County School District Board of Trustees at 6:06 p.m. at the Churchill County School District Administration Office, 690 South Maine Street, Fallon, Nevada.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/CHARACER COUNTS WORD "FAIRNESS"

Trustee Hyde led the pledge of allegiance.

VERIFICATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA

Trustee Hendrix confirmed the posting of the agenda pursuant to NRS 241.

ROLL CALL

Trustees Present

Trustee Clay Hendrix, President
Trustee Kathryn Whitaker, Vice President
Trustee Carmen Schank, Clerk
Trustee Matt Hyde, Acting Clerk
Trustee Tricia Strasdin
Trustee Phil Pinder
Trustee Rich Gent

Others Present

Dr. Sandra Sheldon, Superintendent
Phyllis Dowd, Director of Business Services
Sharla Hales, Legal Counsel

Debra Shyne, Secretary
(Interested Staff/Community Members per Attached List)

REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

President Hendrix requested Item 9A (Resolution 17-02) moved to after 16C (the last new business item). Trustee Whitaker pulled Consent Agenda Item E. Trustee Gent moved to approve the agenda with recommended changes. Trustee Pinder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Becky Dodd, teacher and previous Churchill County Education Association President, commented that at the last budget committee meeting it was stated that budget priorities would be on this agenda, and it is not. Staff attended the meeting because they want to be sure that the number one priority of the District is raising staff wages.

Christina Murphy, 5th grade teacher at Numa, commented that when she first took her position with the District in 2008 she was 23 years old, had a four-year-old son, and was a single mother. Ms. Murphy commented that she qualified for public assistance for quite a few years and requested the Board take into consideration struggling families by increasing wages.

RECOGNITION

- A. The Board will recognize students who placed in the 2017 3A State Wrestling competition and the 2017 3A Academic State Champion.**

Trustee Hyde presented certificates to wrestlers and recognized the efforts of the coaches.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. For Discussion and Possible Action: Resolution 17-02 authorizing the Director of Business Services or Superintendent to arrange for the sale of general obligation refunding bonds of the District; providing other matters relating thereto; and providing the effective date.**

Phyllis Dowd explained the advantage of refunding bonds, with an anticipated savings of \$540,000, if current interest rates remain the same. These savings are based on all of the costs to the bond issue. If the interest rates go up, Ms. Dowd would like the Board to authorize Dr. Sheldon or herself to cancel the sale. Ms. Dowd explained that after the bonds are sold a set amount would be placed in an escrow account. Then the bank would make payments to the bondholders until those bonds become callable. The District would pay current bonds and the bank would pay previous bonds. The rate of the 2009 bonds is between 3.45 and 4.2 percent and the rate of the 2010 bonds is between 3.575 and 3.933 percent. The current interest rates range from 2.25 and 2.3 percent, fluctuating.

Trustee Whitaker asked where the threshold is to determine if it is worth it to proceed with the refunding of bonds. Dr. Sheldon stated that it is up to the Board to decide, but if the District can realize at least a half million dollars in savings, then it is worth it to move ahead. There is some work on the escrow account on Ms. Dowd's part, but it would be worth it. If the District moves forward, closing would probably be in about six weeks. Ms. Dowd stated that the sale of the bonds would come back to the Board for final approval.

Trustee Schank made a motion to arrange for the sale of general obligation refunding bonds of the District, seconded by Trustee Whitaker. There were no public comments. President Hendrix asked at what point in time are fees incurred in relation to the sale so the District could decide whether they want to back out of the transaction. Ms. Dowd stated that she believes there are some costs incurred already, but Ms. Dowd will inquire with JNA Consulting and let the Board know. The motion passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

- A. Staff from the Churchill County Middle School will report on the Positive Committee's work to recognize student success and improve culture.**

Principal Amy Word and sixth grade teacher Heather Stokes reported on the activities associated with their Positive Committee, intended to improve the culture of the school. Some of these activities include: an ice cream social, student of the month recognition, assemblies, a school-wide dance, tickets distributed to recognize random acts of kindness, academic achievements, tribes (facilitated by Janice Grant) to create classroom communities, and taking 28 students to a team building conference.

B. Report on the Churchill County High School Internship Program

Kevin Lords, CCHS Principal, reported that the high school recently hired Colleen Carver as the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Coordinator. Ms. Carver has been preparing for the employability fair and will work on the internship program next year. The health science department has a job shadow program where students shadow fields in physical therapy, and in dental and medical fields. The exploratory teaching program, overseen by Kelly Frost, has thirteen students who shadow jobs in the elementary schools and special education has a work experience program. Ms. Carver has done an excellent job keeping the CTE program in compliance.

C. Update regarding district-related matters

Dr. Sheldon reported that a sound system, recently installed in the Pit, provides better sound, especially for the audience. Dr. Sheldon thanked Brian Byrd for his efforts in upgrading the sound system. The previous speakers were designed to be used outside, and were ineffective in the Pit.

Dr. Sheldon reminded the Board that she will be out of the office part of the following week through Monday, March 6, attending the AASA conference. The National School Board Association conference will be the end of March. Most of the Educational Services office will be out of District the rest of the week of February 20, along with staff from Numa, attending a Title I Conference in Long Beach, California.

BUSINESS SERVICES UPDATE

A. Budget to Actual Report (written report provided)

B. Update regarding general business items

C. Final Bond Report (written report attached)

Phyllis Dowd reported that next week the budget committee will be presented with the top two priorities for each site and those priorities will be presented to the Board after that meeting. Ms. Dowd stated that the plan is to provide that information to the budget committee on Friday and send that information to the Board as well.

Ms. Dowd reported on the highlights of the bond program (the Final Bond Report was in BoardBook). Ms. Dowd thanked Dr. Sheldon and Brian Byrd for utilizing local contractors.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES UPDATE

A. The latest Student Enrollment Data will be provided to the Board of Trustees (written report provided)

UPCOMING BOARD EVENTS

A. Saturday-Sunday-Monday, March 25-27, 2017, National School Board Association's 77th Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Recommended Personnel Action (Attachment A)**
- B. Approval of Vouchers**
- C. Approval of February 1, 2017, Special Board Meeting Minutes**
- D. Approval of February 8, 2017, Regular Board Meeting Minutes**
- E. Approval of the Greenwave Plan for Success for the Churchill County High School**
- F. Approval of Students 17-06, 17-08, 17-09, and 17-10 for Exemption from Receiving Immunizations based on Religious Reasons (NRS 392.435)**
- G. Approval of Student 17-07 to enter the General Education Development (GED) program**
- H. Approval of Modifications to Policy 5136.0 – Weapons (Students)**
- I. Approval of Modifications to Policy 5136.3 – Immoral Conduct (Students)**
- J. Approval of Modifications to Regulation 5136.4 (Change from Regulation to Policy) – Theft or Destruction of School Property (Students)**
- K. Approval of Modifications to Policy 5150.0 – Administration of Medications and Medicines by District Personnel (Students)**
 - 1. For Review Only: Regulation 5150.0 – Procedure for the Administration of Recording of Medication**
 - a. For Review Only: Regulation 5150.1 – Request for Medication During School Day**
 - b. For Review Only: Regulation 5150.2 – Medication Administration Daily Log**
 - c. For Review Only: Regulation 5150.3 – Controlled Substance Inventory Record 2009/2010**
 - d. For Review Only: Regulation 5150.4 – Medication Error Report**
 - e. For Review Only: Regulation 5150.5 – Request to Carry and Self Administer Asthma Rescue Inhaler or Epinephrine Auto-Injector**
 - f. For Review Only: Regulation 5150.6 – Medication Administration Delegation Record**

Trustee Gent made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A-D, F-K as written and provided. Trustee Schank seconded the motion. There were no public comments. The motion passed unanimously.

President Hendrix stated that Item “E” was pulled and will be on a future agenda.

REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Trustee Pinder reported that he and Dr. Sheldon attended the ROTC inspection and the inspection was very impressive.

Trustee Schank reported that she and Dr. Sheldon attended the Valentines Sweetheart Breakfast at Northside where they cooked pancakes and visited classes afterwards. Trustee Schank also reported on her visit to high school technology classes.

Trustee Strasdin reported on posters that high school students created to assist the District in its marketing efforts. Students did a phenomenal job.

Trustee Whitaker reported that she spent time in E.C. Best classrooms. There was a lot of different learning going on, and most teachers were teaching about Presidents’ Day.

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

A. For Discussion and Possible Action: Approval of new course for the Churchill County High School titled AP Computer Science Principles.

Kevin Lords, CCHS Principal, reported that the Governor has an initiative to have AP science offered in all high schools. There is not a lot of funding to go with the initiative. The State allocated money for a weeklong training event for a teacher. The high school has qualified instructors to teach this AP class in grade 9 or 10.

Trustee Whitaker asked if this class would count toward graduation. Mr. Lords stated some schools count the class as math, some as science, and some as an elective. It depends on whether the teacher is highly qualified. The State would allow any one of these designations.

Dr. Sheldon reported that the District doesn't have to worry about highly qualified, but the teacher has to be highly effective. The State has more flexibility in the criteria for certification, so that will help with determine what type of credit this class would be.

Dr. Sheldon reported that the introduction to technology class is a good prerequisite to the AP class. There are about 25 students in the intro class. These students could then go to the Informational Technology program that the District is collaborating with Western Nevada College housed at the library, so students can get industry certifications and be ready to apply for positions at \$50,000 to \$60,000 per year.

Trustee Whitaker moved to approve the new course for the Churchill County High School titled AP Computer Science Principles; seconded by Trustee Pinder. There were no public comments. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Sheldon stated that Amy Word, middle school principal, is looking at a computer science introductory class for the middle school.

B. For Discussion and Possible Action: Approval of Resolution 17-01 – In Support of iNVEST 2017.

Dr. Sheldon explained the resolution for the iNVEST document, put forward by the Nevada Association of School Boards. Every two years superintendents put together a document that reports on priorities. The Board received the iNVEST document previously. Dr. Sheldon requested that the Board vote in favor of the resolution. NASB has requested that all 17 school districts support the iNVEST document, which will be forwarded to the Nevada State Legislature.

Trustee Schank commented that she was not in favor of the iNVEST document. The state is just coming out of the recession. Trustee Schank was not in favor of raising property taxes, especially on farmers, after the recent drought and recession. Trustee Schank stated that the two worse things that can be done for economic growth is to overregulate and raise taxes.

Trustee Whitaker moved to approve Resolution 17-01 in support of iNVEST 2017, seconded by Trustee Hyde. There were no public comments. The motion passed 5:2; Trustees Gent and Schank opposed.

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 2016-2017 Churchill County High School Seniors.

Trustee Schank made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gent, to give four \$500 scholarships (2 Female and 2 Male Students). There were no public comments. The motion passed unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

A. The Board will meet in closed session pursuant to NRS 241.030(1) to consider a Level III grievance brought on behalf of Mark Leiser by the Churchill County Education Association. The closed session will include consideration of the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence, or physical or mental health of Mr. Leiser.

Ms. Hales stated that before the Board goes into closed session she would like the Board to meet in a litigation session. Ms. Hales suggested the Board take public comment as the Board will meet in litigation session and then closed session, which might take some time. President Hendrix then asked for public comment (see Public Comment below).

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

For Discussion and Possible Action: The Board will take action to uphold or deny the Level III grievance brought on behalf of Mark Leiser by the Churchill County Education Association.

President Hendrix stated that agenda items regarding the closed session have been resolved, so the Board will not meet in closed session.

CLOSED SESSION

A. Discussion of negotiations and strategies regarding Churchill County Administrators' Association, Churchill County Education Association, and the Nevada Classified School Employees Association pursuant to NRS 288.220.

Trustee Gent made a motion, seconded by Trustee Schank, to go into closed session pursuant to NRS 288.220. There were no public comments. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Elena Marsh, teacher at the high school and Churchill County Education Association President, stated that the Board has commented previously asking why aren't teachers present at board meetings. Ms. Marsh wanted to recognize the teachers who showed up to the meeting. Ms. Marsh thanked the Board for responding to some of her emails in the past week.

[The Board went into litigation session at approximately 7:40 p.m.] After litigation, the Board waited while NCEA legal counsel and the District's legal counsel worked through negotiations regarding the closed session.

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

[The Board reconvened at 8:26 p.m.]

Trustee Schank requested follow-up on accountability for 6th grade students at the middle school. There are credit requirements for 7th and 8th grade students, but not for 6th grade.

Trustee Pinder requested a look at whether it would be beneficial for sixth grade students to return to groups of pods instead of having seven different class periods/teachers.

Trustee Hyde would like to know where the high school is at regarding creating a CTE course to count as math credit.

President Hendrix requested a report on the audit of student activity accounts.

President Hendrix requested discussion on the need for another assistant principal or counselor for the middle school.

SET DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT BOARD “AGENDA SETTING” MEETING

President Hendrix, Trustee Whitaker, and Trustee Gent will meet on Monday, February 27, at 5:00 p.m. Dr. Sheldon reported that the budget committee will meet on February 28 and will review priorities from all buildings and then the Board will review those priorities in March. President Hendrix commented that the Board went through their priorities at the Board’s retreat. The Board will get feedback from the budget committee, but after that feedback, the Board will still need to wait for money forecasts from the State.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Whitaker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Pinder, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:20 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Carmen, Schank, Clerk of the Board

Prepared by Debra Shyne