

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Tuesday, March 12, 2013

6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Carson City School District Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Lynnette Conrad at the Sierra Room, Community Center, 851 E. William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

ROLL CALL: Members Present
Lynnette Conrad, President
Stacie Wilke-McCulloch, Vice President
Ron Swirczek, Clerk
Joe Cacioppo, Member
Laurel Crossman, Member
Barbara Myers, Member
Steve Reynolds, Member
Richard Stokes, Superintendent
Mike Pavlakis, Legal Counsel

Members Absent
None

ACTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Ron Swirczek, seconded by Mrs. Laurel Crossman, **that the Carson City School District Board of Trustees adopt the agenda as submitted.** Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Conrad adjourned to closed session at 6:33 p.m.

Mrs. Conrad reconvened the meeting to public session at 7:00 p.m.

Board President Lynnette Conrad led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Mr. Stokes introduced Ms. Erin Been and Ms. Christine Mannschreck, Carson High School Bowling Club Advisors. The Bowling Club is not a Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) sport, they are recognized with the high school activities program; doing their own fundraising, etc. As a Club, they travel on their own and all bowling matches, with the exception of one, are held in Reno, Nevada at various bowling locations. Gold Dust West Bowling Center is the home location; providing lanes and bowling time for practice. The club competes in the High Desert Interscholastic Bowling Program. The students have won the Championship 11 years out of 13 years, losing last year by one point. Ms. Been introduced the coaches; Mr. Vern Barnes, Mr. Kevin Costa, Mr. Dave Lethcoe, and Mr. Chris Fletcher. Ms. Been introduced the members of the team and highlighted four members that were named to the "All Star" team; Kyle Lethcoe, Steven Costa, Brianna Mathiesen, and DJ Luster. The team was undefeated with 10 wins. The High Desert League male player of the year was Steven Costa, with an average of 210.
- Early Release Day on Wednesday, March 13, 2013 for students on the traditional calendar; classes dismiss at the following times:
 - Pioneer High School – 12:15 p.m.
 - Carson High School – 12:30 p.m.

- Middle Schools – 12:50 p.m.
 - Elementary Schools – 1:30 p.m.
- Kindergarten registration is taking place between 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. each day. The following information is required:
 - Birth certificate and immunization record
 - Must be 5 years of age on or before September 30, 2013
 - Proof of residency in Carson City School District
- Contact your neighborhood school for enrollment packets or additional information
- Elementary Parent Teacher Conferences:
 - Fremont Elementary School – March 20th & 21st; classes dismiss at 12:30 p.m.
 - Traditional Schools – March 26th & 27th; classes dismiss at 12:30 p.m.
- Spring Break:
 - Fremont Elementary School – March 25th – April 12th; classes resume on Monday, April 15, 2013
 - Traditional Schools – March 29th – April 5th; classes resume on Monday, April 8, 2013

BOARD REPORTS

Karen Stone reported on the following activities at Pioneer High School:

- Western Nevada College (WNC) Bridge to Success event for junior and senior students will be held on Thursday, March 14 & 15, 2013; contact Mr. Olson for more details.
- 4 members of the Attorney General's Office are continuing to coach the 2 student teams for the Elsinore Appeal
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) options for students at Pioneer High School and Carson Online, articulated with WNC include; Criminal Justice I and II and Construction Management I
- Students have the opportunity to earn high school and college credits in the following courses through DeVry University; Composition, Advanced Composition, Algebra for College students, Pre-Calculus, Introduction to Business, Logic and Design, Introduction to Networking, Computer Applications for Business, Basic Medical Terminology, Psychology, and Virtual Design Fundamentals
- Congratulations to the following students; Brent Whipple, currently skiing on the Junior Olympic Ski Team; Tanner Thorson, sponsored by the Toyota Auto Racing Team and Natasha Oshniski, graduating with an honors diploma and has been accepted at University of Nevada, Reno

Mariah Whitcome reported on the following activities at Carson High School:

- Student Body Elections take place on Wednesday, March 13th and Thursday, March 14th; online voting is available to students in the computer lab during nutrition, lunch and after school
- JV and Varsity Baseball play at home at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 14th against North Valleys High School
- JV and Varsity Softball play at 3:45 p.m. on Thursday, March 14th against McQueen High School
- Swim Meet at Carson Aquatic Center on Thursday, March 14th at 2:00 p.m.
- Track Meet on Saturday, March 16th at 9:00 a.m.
- "Little Shop of Horrors" drama production will be shown Friday, March 15th and Saturday, March 16th at 7:00 p.m.
- JV and Varsity Softball and Baseball games will be played on Thursday, March 21st beginning at 3:45 p.m.
- Mr. Ron Beck, Principal, Carson High School addressed Leadership and Student Council students regarding the implementation of Standard Student Attire (SSA). Of the 65 students in attendance, no one expressed concerns with implementing SSA next year.
- Parent and Community member meetings to discuss Standard Student Attire at Carson High School are scheduled on March 19th and March 27th in Senator Square from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

- Academic Award Ceremony for Senior students will be March 25th at 6:00 p.m. in Senator Square; key note speaker will be Mr. Adam Whatley, Nevada State Teacher of the Year
- Previous “Students of the Week” were provided a luncheon, catered by the Culinary Arts program on Monday, March 11th

Mrs. Crossman provided an update on for the following:

- Visited the Early Childhood Center earlier in the week
- Fritsch Elementary School:
 - Space Camp Fundraiser at Gold West Bowling Center on March 12th from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.; final fundraising day is April 16th from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
 - Book Fair takes place from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. beginning Monday, March 18th and ending on Tuesday, March 26th
 - Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is hosting Family Pizza Night on Thursday, March 21st from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
 - 3 students placed at the recent Science Fair; John Vetrice, 3rd place; Brooke Robinson, 2nd place and Eric Tomita, 1st place
 - 2 students received awards at the 2013 Nevada PTA Reflections Contest; Daisy Cyphers, Award of Merit for Musical Composition and Deepti Arun, Award of Merit for Visual Arts
 - 80’s day is Friday, March 22nd

Mrs. Myers provided an update for Seeliger Elementary School:

- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting is March 18th at 5:00 p.m. in library
- Looking for substitute noon-aides; anyone interested should contact Human Resources
- Ongoing fundraiser with Pizza Factory, Highway 50 East; 1st Tuesday of the Month, 20% of all sales for the day are donated to the school

Mr. Swirczek announced that the pilot program for Community Partnerships will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 19th at Carson High School.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch provided a report from the Nevada Association of School Boards:

- Executive Board meeting will be on Saturday, March 23, 2013

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

There were no association reports.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Frank Paluch addressed the Board, seeking help for his 9th grade son at Carson High School. Due to medical issues that took place, Mr. Paluch was unable to help his son; therefore, he has lost interest in school. In elementary school, his son was an A – B average student; however, his current average is a C. Mr. Paluch would like to find a mentor for his son at school, someone to talk to about why he lost interest in school.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch commented on some of the difficulties she had when her son was a 9th grade student; lack of motivation, etc.

Mr. Stokes will follow-up with Mr. Paluch to further discuss his concerns.

UPDATE ON CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT RACE TO THE TOP GRANT

Dr. Steve Pradere, Transformation Office Director, provided an update on the Race to the Top Grant. Dr. Pradere, along with Mrs. Susan Keema, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services and Dr. Ricky Medina, Director of Accountability and Assessment traveled to Washington D.C. and met with Mr. Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education and other staff members from the U.S. Department of Education.

The district, along with the other districts receiving the grant also met with staff in charge of supervising the Grant. The initial scope of work was reviewed in preparation for the submission by the required date of April 8, 2013. The scope of work includes all components of the grant initially identified, data and expenditures planned for the grant. The district is in alignment; however, two changes were asked for; classification of an employee and the level of Administrative support.

Dr. Pradere highlighted several items from the trip:

- The research firm that developed the English Language curriculum in New York stopped the meeting to describe what the District is doing and recognized the project as the one to follow
- The convening; first portion of the pre-conference, district staff along with other recipients were provided the opportunity to meet with Educational Research Labs and were seated with staff from New York City Public Schools and members of the Gates Foundation

Dr. Pradere is currently working on hiring staff, with three recommendations to hire to be presented at the next Board meeting. The remaining twelve recommendations for hire should be completed soon. The request for funds will also be completed soon.

Mr. Swirczek recognized Dr. Pradere, Mrs. Keema and Dr. Medina for their work efforts related to the grant.

Mrs. Keema commented on feedback that took place during their 1:1 session with the federal representative; the amount of detailed information included in the scope of work is not necessary.

INFORMATIONAL UPDATE ON BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014

Mr. Stokes presented a power point presentation on budget assumptions for fiscal year 2013-2014. (A copy is included in the permanent record.) Including this meeting, additional updates will be presented on March 26, 2013 and April 9, 2013 when the tentative budget will be presented.

Mr. Stokes presented information on the following items that have occurred that may have an effect on the budget for fiscal year 2013-2014:

- Governor Sandoval reported in his "State of the State" address that there would be a 2% increase to the Distributive School Account (DSA); approximately \$800,000. In attending recent Legislative sessions, Mr. Stokes has heard, with no specific promises, the desire to increase the support for education in Nevada; smaller class sizes, early childhood programs, etc.
- Mr. Dave Dawley, City Assessor has provided information that the assessed valuation for Carson City has decreased approximately 10%, which may impact the amount received from property tax revenue; down approximately \$1 million. This could also impact our ability to sell bonds and continue work on bond projects, already approved by the voters. Mr. Stokes has also inquired about other aspects of the Nevada Plan being available to provide assistance.
- Mr. Stokes acknowledged the 4 bargaining groups for their willingness to meet and approve a negotiated agreement for a freeze in Step and Column; approximate savings of \$1,352,000. They also approved a reduction of two work days in the contract for an approximate savings of \$480,000.

Mr. Stokes highlighted several changes identified since the December 11, 2013 presentation:

- Revenue; total expected - \$60,727,741
- Expenditures; Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) – district will assume the 2% increase as a result of collective bargaining; \$771,288
- Transfer to other funds - \$7,244,455; Special Education transfer associated with 7 Special Education teachers that elected the Voluntary Separation Incentive Plan (VSIP)
- Projected ending fund balance if no changes were made; continue with current staffing and operations; ending fund balance would be negative \$(41,522)

- Ending Fund Balance target based on current projections is \$4.1 million; 8.3% of budgeted expenditures per Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 354.660
- Reductions needed to balance the budget - \$4,141,522

Salaries and Benefits changes:

- 2 day reduction and Step and Column for Superintendent and "At-Will" district positions - \$8,300
- Reduce one district-wide administrative position - \$122,000
- Cost to the district to have a Vice Principal at each elementary school – (\$163,111); currently 2 schools sharing a Vice Principal
- Eliminate counselors at the elementary level - \$262,613
- Cost to the district to add a ½ time Counselor at Pioneer High School – (\$21,613)
- Anticipate the ability to use grant funds to administer several programs - \$172,000
- Impact of Voluntary Separation Incentive Plan (VSIP) - \$1,441,600
 - Increase student/teacher ratios in grades 1, 2 and 3 to 22:1; reduction of 7 Full Time Employees (FTE's)
 - Reduce one administrative position at Carson High School
 - Reduction in teaching positions at secondary level; reduction of 7 FTE's

Mr. Stokes explained that May 1, 2013 is the deadline to notify teachers regarding a contract for 2013-2014.

- Re-organize elementary library services to classified positions; certified staff will be maintained at the secondary level - \$90,000

Mrs. Myers asked if all requests for the VSIP were granted. Dr. Jose Delfin, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources explained that 6 requests, out of 32 did not qualify, therefore they were not fulfilled.

- Eliminate paid duty aides is no longer included in the plan, due to recent collective bargaining

Services and Supplies:

- Establish a pay to participate in activities at high school level - \$50,000; \$25 per participate per activity, \$75 max per student

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch asked if considerations would be available for those unable to pay to play. Mr. Stokes explained that the district would work that into the budget regarding those types of circumstances.

- Eliminate district cell phones; additional consideration for some district staff as it relates to safety - \$50,000

Mr. Cacioppo asked for clarification regarding the reduction in district-wide staff travel. Mr. Stokes explained that most travel is associated with business in Las Vegas, Nevada. It would affect the general fund by a savings of approximately 60%.

Transfers:

- Reduction of transfer to Special Education fund - \$750,000
- Approximate remaining gap balance - \$60,000

Mr. Stokes explained that if the district included the amount of the gap in the ending fund balance, it would reduce it from 8.3% to 8.2%. In addition, Mr. Stokes commented on the number of job opportunities associated with the Race to the Top Grant. The salaries would be removed from the general fund and applied to the grant; ½ of March, all of April, May and June, 2013.

Mr. Stokes reiterated that the district has until December, 2013 to modify the budget, based on student enrollment and DSA information. Mr. Stokes stressed the importance of planning for the 2013-2014 school year based on staff reductions, etc. Dr. Delfin is currently working with site administrators regarding their staffing needs.

Mr. Stokes will make another budget presentation at the March 26, 2013 School Board meeting and the tentative budget will be presented at the April 9, 2013 Board meeting.

Mrs. Myers commented on the needs associated with the Special Education program and asked if there will be any savings associated with the Race to the Top Grant. Mr. Stokes explained that the district typically budgets a specific amount for a teacher. Mrs. Myers commented on how the district does not have restrictions associated with hiring employees based on their senior level on the pay schedule. Mr. Stokes commented on the responsibilities associated with the Principal's submitting their list of names and hiring staff.

For clarification, Mr. Reynolds asked about the total projected expenditures. Mr. Anthony Turley, Director of Fiscal Services explained that the maintenance of effort is \$9.2 million; 2/3 is covered by the general fund.

Mr. Swirczek commented on the assessed valuation decrease and the impacts to the property tax revenue. He also commented on the possibility of the DSA coming in at a higher rate, filling in the gap for the district. Mr. Stokes commented on the conservative approach taken by the district.

Mr. Reynolds inquired as to when the district might have information regarding revenue. Mr. Turley highlighted several upcoming dates:

- March 15, 2013 – Counties are required to report the final assessed valuations and revenue projections to the Department of Taxation. They in turn, provide the information to the Nevada Department of Education. The information is worked into the State apportionment model.
- End of March, 2013 – anticipate revenue projections from the Department of Education
- April 15, 2013 revenue projections will be included in the tentative budget

Mrs. Conrad asked if there was any savings associated with having Fremont Elementary School moving towards the traditional calendar. Mr. Stokes explained that any savings associated with the change will be insignificant; not the purpose for making the change.

RATIFICATION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE 4 EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION GROUPS; CARSON CITY ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION, ORMSBY COUNTY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, CARSON EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT ASSOCIATION, AND CARSON CITY HEALTH SERVICES PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION REGARDING EMPLOYEE WAGES AND BENEFITS FOR FY2014 AND FY2015

Dr. Delfin reported that the District's bargaining groups were able to negotiate an Interim Tentative Agreement, related to monetary items. Dr. Delfin publicly thanked the association groups; Mr. Brian Wallace, President, Ormsby County Education Association (OCEA), Mr. Jeff White, President, Carson Educational Support Association (CESA), Ms. Loretta Wilson, President, Carson City Health Services Personnel Association (CCHSPA) and Mrs. Casey Gilles, President, Carson City Administrators' Association (CCAA).

Mr. Stephen Kessler, Commissioner, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service led the Interest Based Bargaining (IBB) process.

It was moved by Mrs. Stacie Wilke-McCulloch, seconded by Mr. Ron Swirczek, **that the Carson City School District Board of Trustees ratify the Interim Tentative Agreement for FY2014 and FY2015, for monetary negotiations and concessions between the 4 employee groups; Ormsby County Education Association (OCEA), Carson City Health Services Personnel Association (CCHSPA), Carson Educational Support Association (CESA), Carson City**

Administrators' Association (CAA) and the Carson City School District. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION BY THE SUPERINTENDENT ON THE "STATE OF THE DISTRICT"
ADDRESS: INFORMATIONAL OVERVIEW FOR THE CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
FOR THE 2012 CALENDAR YEAR

Mr. Stokes presented the State of the District for 2012. (A copy is included in the permanent record.) Mr. Stokes acknowledged the community for their interest and continued partnership.

The District's Vision; *Our Community Empowers Tomorrow's Innovators, Leaders and Thinkers*
There are 5 goals associated with the Vision:

- The Community in Full Partnership
- Engaged Parents and Guardians
- Healthy Generations of Students
- Curriculum Matters
- Exceptional Administrators, Teachers and Staff

There are approximately 7,500 students enrolled in the Carson City School District, with 12 schools; 1 Early Childhood, 6 Elementary Schools, 2 Middle Schools, 1 High School, 1 Alternative High School (Pioneer High School) and 1 sponsored Charter School; Carson Montessori School.

The following was presented by Mr. Stokes:

- Enrollment comparison for FY2013 vs. FY2012; positive enrollment for September; 7,628 vs. 7,594; increase of 34 students
- Ethnicity; Native American 2.3%, Asian 1.7%, Hispanic 40%, Black 0.4%, White 52%, Pacific Islander 0.2%, Multi-Race 3.3%
- Special Programs; Individualized Education Plan (IEP) 11.2%, Limited English Proficient (LEP) 17.1%, Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) 50.8%; increased significantly over last year, Migrant 0%
- Transiency; measure of how many students come into and leave prior to completion in one of the district schools
 - State 27.9%, District 17.9%; comparison between Seeliger 11.0% vs. Empire 22.4%, which accounts for student movement within the district
- Discipline:
 - Possession of weapons resulting in suspension; State 558 vs. District 13
 - Violence to other students resulting in suspensions; State 6,762 vs. District 12
 - Possession/Use of controlled substances; State 1,889 vs. District 37

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch asked if the numbers had increased compared to last year. Mrs. Keema explained that as reported in the Accountability Report, assaults are down compared to the previous year. Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch commented on how the incidents were recorded at Carson Middle School due to Positive Behavior Support (PBS). Mrs. Keema commented on the number of other resources available to provide students the support they need. Mr. Stokes also commented on the number of resources available in the district and the few students that are prohibited from attending school in the district, as there are other opportunities provided to students so that they receive their education.

- Average Daily Attendance
 - State student attendance; 94.9%
 - District student attendance; 94.8%
 - District teacher attendance; does not reflect teacher training days – 91.1%

Mr. Stokes described the Learner Centered Educational System model utilized in the District that assisted in receiving the Race to the Top Grant:

- Curriculum – unified, guaranteed and viable curriculum in all content areas, in all grade levels
- Instruction – designed to lead students to mastery of unit assessments

- Assessment – common formative and summative assessments (pre & post assessments) based on units of study
- Leadership – active focus on the number of students who meet mastery and the application of needed resources to increase those numbers

Since the inception of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) in 2002, this is the first time the District did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Due to the secondary schools in the district not making AYP, the district did not qualify to make AYP. There are proposed changes to the Accountability System in the State; therefore when the new system is introduced, the District will be held to a different standard. Schools can be designated Adequate, High Achieving or In Need of Improvement (INOI). To move into or from INOI areas, a school has to fail to meet AYP for two years.

Mr. Stokes reviewed the AYP school designations:

- Seeliger Elementary School – Adequate
- Empire Elementary School – Adequate
- Fritsch Elementary School – High Achieving
- Bordewich Bray Elementary School – Adequate
- Fremont Elementary School – INOI (6 Hold)
- Mark Twain Elementary School – INOI (3)
- Eagle Valley Middle School – INOI (2)
- Carson Middle School – INOI (3)
- Carson High School – Watch
- Pioneer High School – INOI (1)

Mrs. Crossman asked for additional information regarding the meanings of the designations. Mr. Stokes defined the designation for Mark Twain Elementary School; In Need of Improvement (INOI) in year 3. For the last three years, there has been some aspect of their operation that has prevented them from making AYP. Fremont's INOI, year 6 hold designation means they achieved AYP; however, they have 1 more year before they can be considered out of the category of "In Needs of Improvement". Mrs. Keema commented on how the rigor and cut scores changed for assessment at the middle schools. Across the State, there was a 20% reduction for middle schools; however, Dr. Ricky Medina, Director of Accountability and Assessment identified the district's reduction to be 10%.

Mr. Cacioppo asked for the differences between adequate vs. high achieving. Mrs. Keema explained that adequate means that students met the designated target in all sub-groups. High achieving means that all sub-group targets were met and increased by 10%.

Mr. Reynolds expressed his thoughts on not showing how a few students can impact AYP and the schools designation of INOI.

Mr. Stokes presented comparable information regarding graduation rates and dropout rates. The Department of Education changed the manner in which graduation rates are calculated and reported. In addition; a cohort method is being used. The formula in determining the graduation rate; day student begins high school in 9th grade, when they graduate in 12th grade, the number of students receiving a diploma and still enrolled in school. Due to the new calculations, the district had a slight decrease in the graduation rate; however, in comparison to the State average, the District is above average. The information is from the 2011-2012 Accountability Report.

- Graduation Rate – Class of 2011
 - State – 68.8% vs. 2010, 70.3%
 - Carson High School – 86.2% vs. 2010, 88.6%
 - Pioneer High School – 54.3% vs. 2010, 68.1%
 - District – 80.9% vs. 2010, 86.95%
- Drop-out Rate – 2011
 - State – 4.1% vs. 2010, 4.2%
 - Carson High School – 1.9% vs. 2010, 1.8%
 - Pioneer High School – 23.5% vs. 2010, 10.3%

- District – 3.4% vs. 2010, 2.2%

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch asked for information regarding Carson Online. Mrs. Keema explained that students enrolled in Carson Online are identified at their home school. Carson Online is not a school itself.

Mr. Stokes presented information related to academic trends and plans currently in place or being developed:

- Have a uniform reading program in each elementary school; Seeliger Elementary School is in their first year of implementation
- Continue professional development; continued introduction of Common Core Standards.
- Common curriculum and assessments in all schools
- Sustain instructional consultation program; apply resources to help students
- Increase secondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities
 - Health Occupations/Agriculture/Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
- Full-Day Kindergarten programs at all elementary schools; State pays for programs at Empire Elementary School. Two schools offer a tuition program; Fritsch Elementary School and Bordewich Bray Elementary School. Start of 2013-2014 school year, the full-day kindergarten program will be optional and available at Fremont, Mark Twain and Seeliger Elementary Schools.
- Strategic Plan – Community Partnerships; March 19, 2013, school teams and community partners will meet together and talk about the benefits of the partnership. A Declaration certificate will be signed and provided to the partners.
- Technology; 1:1 mobile pilot initiative

Number of employees in the district:

- 12 Executive
- 26 Administrators
- 486 Certified
- 335 Classified; 103 12-month employees and 232 10-11 month employees
- 11 Nurses
- 870 total employees

Current school year student/teacher staffing ratios; however some classes may exceed the targeted staffing ratios:

- 1st grade; 18:1
- 2nd grade; 19:1
- 3rd grade; 21:1
- 4th and 5th grade; 27:1
- 6th – 12th grades; 25:1

The student/teacher ratios will be modified for 2013-2014 school year.

Mr. Stokes provided information for Operations and Services:

- Transportation
 - Transport 1870 students one-way
 - Travel 746 miles per day in a 15 mile radius
 - 43 buses in the fleet; newest bus purchased in 2012, oldest buses purchased in 1998
 - 29 drivers including substitute drivers
- Nutrition Services; compared to data for January, 2012
 - Additional meals served; 6,929 breakfast and 5,555 lunches
 - Increase attributed to increase in qualified reimbursable meals
- Medicaid Reimbursements
 - Information will be provided at a later date

Mrs. Myers asked if the dollars associated with Medicaid is the amount earned, collected, or amount owed. Mr. Turley explained that the dollar figure identifies the amount received. In 2011, the district received funds for claims processed for services provided in previous years. Mrs. Myers asked if the processed claims are beginning to equal the amount received. Mr. Turley explained that a third party system administrator is processing claims, making the timing of collecting funds closer to the time of service.

Mrs. Conrad asked for additional information regarding the third party system administrator; computer program or a hired employee. Mr. Turley explained that the district has hired a firm to serve as the third party administrator; assuring that all criteria are met on the claims. Mrs. Conrad inquired about the costs associated with this process. Mr. Turley explained that the third party administrator has paid for itself based on the accuracy of submitting the claims.

Mr. Reynolds asked for additional information regarding nutrition services. Mr. Turley explained that the district averaged 4,000 meals per day last year, compared to approximately 4,700 meals per day this year, for an estimated increase of 13%.

Mr. Cacioppo asked for additional information regarding "Breakfast in the School" program at Empire Elementary School. Mr. Stokes summarized the program; based on the number of free and reduced meals served at Empire Elementary School, carts of breakfast items are taken to each classroom, where breakfast is offered to all students before school; however, students can refuse it. The program meets the requirements of the National Hot Lunch Program, therefore, it qualifies as a reimbursable meal.

Mrs. Conrad inquired about making sure students eat their meal and that it is not wasted. Mr. Stokes commented on rules associated with food items that are allowed to be saved vs. throwing it away. Mr. Stokes explained that staff and students have made comments about not being hungry an hour before lunch.

Mr. Stokes reviewed financial information:

- Per Pupil Expenditures based on 2011-2012 State Accountability Report
 - Instruction: State – 66.1% vs. District – 64.5%
 - Instruction support; State – 11.1% vs. District – 14.2%
 - Operations; State 15.3% vs. District – 16.3%
 - Leadership; State 7.5% vs. District – 5.0%

In addition to the bond work at Eagle Valley Middle School, Empire Elementary School and the Carson High School wrestling/weight room addition, other Phase I bond projects include:

- Controlled entrance at Mark Twain Elementary School and Fremont Elementary School

Mr. Reynolds suggested that comparisons be included in future presentations.

Mr. Stokes commented on a study completed across the United States in 2008 at Georgetown University that calculated the "Return on Investment" (ROI). All seventeen (17) school districts in Nevada were included in the study; Carson City School District ranked 4th in the State.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Reynolds publicly acknowledged the four employee groups for their work effort during the recent Interest Based Bargaining meetings.

2013 NEVADA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: REPORT ON ITEMS OF INTEREST RELATING TO EDUCATION

Mr. Stokes reported that we are in the sixth week of the Legislative session.

The Committees on Education are currently very active, with discussions taking place regarding presentations of Bills and Laws being presented:

- Teachers and Leaders Council (TLC) – Council established to create a uniform evaluation system for administrators and teachers. Members of the committee were criticized for not having representation from particular groups. The Council will work

towards addressing the concern. There are also concerns from other members of the education profession regarding the TLC; initiative is important that should be fair, desire that work is done timely and fairly.

- Professional Development – three Regional Professional Development Programs in Nevada, serving Northern Nevada, Northeastern Nevada and Southern Nevada. Previously the governance for the program would be that the Superintendent or a Designee from the region would make up a governing board that would hire an Executive Director for the region. Consideration is being given that would take the Regional Professional Development programs and have them be within the Nevada Department of Education. This serves as a critical issue for rural counties, as they rely on the Professional Development program.
- A hearing on Margins Tax was heard on Tuesday, March 5, 2013; a system that brings annual projections of \$800 million to education. As a tax, there would be the requirement for paying a tax.
- AB124 was heard on Wednesday, March 6, 2013, which pertains to the Millennium Scholarship and a Code of Honor. The Bill relates to how students would be dealt with if caught cheating three times; lose the opportunity to utilize the Millennium Scholarship.
- Nevada Association of School Superintendents (NASS) and Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB) will present iNVEST on Wednesday, March 13, 2013
- Distributive School Account (DSA) hearing will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Reynolds asked if there had been any discussions regarding the proposal from Clark County School District to balance the DSA amongst the districts. Mr. Stokes explained that there has been little discussion regarding this topic.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE EVALUATION FORM TO BE USED TO COMPLETE THE SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION FOR THE 2012 CALENDAR YEAR

Mrs. Conrad opened the discussion amongst board members asking for comments and suggestions. Mrs. Conrad provided a key for the evaluation designations; Unsatisfactory, Needs Improvement, Satisfactory, and Above Average. (A copy is included in the permanent record.)

Mr. Swirczek commented on the information provided by Mr. Reynolds. Mr. Swirczek asked Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch and Mrs. Myers if they had reviewed the information Mr. Reynolds had provided. Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch explained that besides the **bold** comments provided by Mr. Cacioppo, they were looking towards the evaluation for 2013, establishing a standard format that can be used in 2014-2015. Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch believes the information provided by Mr. Reynolds will be used for future evaluations.

Mr. Cacioppo expressed his satisfaction with the evaluation form presented for 2012. Mr. Cacioppo pointed out a typing error; educational tools for reaching, should read "for reading."

Mr. Swirczek asked if the wording regarding measurable student growth and achievement should be more specific.

Mrs. Conrad believes the wording associated with measurement of growth is appropriate.

Mr. Swirczek commented on the wording that the Superintendent would ensure that measurable student growth and achievement has been met. In addition, Mr. Swirczek provided the following wording changes; Superintendent clearly tracks the effectiveness of existing educational tools.

Mr. Cacioppo clarified that his suggestions were considerations for the future, not necessarily to be included in the current evaluation. The idea pertains to tracking student achievement and/or growth. In an attempt to keep things fair, Mr. Cacioppo did not intend for new things to be included in the evaluation.

Mrs. Conrad believes additional information should be added to the topic of Educational and Professional Leadership.

Mrs. Crossman stated the wording she believes Mr. Swirczek was working to communicate; In keeping consistency, Mrs. Crossman suggested the following wording; ensures student growth and achievement occurs; tracks the effectiveness of existing educational tools and makes advancement in the availability of educational tools for Reading, Math and Science.

Mr. Cacioppo stressed the importance of including measurable growth; how is it being measured?

Mr. Swirczek commented on being cautious in moving forward, as the district did not make AYP.

Mrs. Crossman commented on the possibility of lower test scores due to Common Core State Standards and more rigorous testing.

Mr. Cacioppo commented on holding teachers accountable; not all comparisons are equal. He also commented on the possibility of utilizing data already comprised in the district.

Mr. Reynolds commented on the importance of establishing the type of quantitative data.

Mrs. Myers explained that if a target had been implemented, then she would support having measurable growth included; however, she questioned how anyone could be held accountable, without establishing a target. Mrs. Myers believes goals established for the Superintendent should include a measurable target.

Mrs. Conrad suggested that information related to measurable growth be included in future evaluations.

Mr. Reynolds suggested that the ratings included on the evaluation form be noted on the category rather than indicators within each category. Mr. Reynolds confirmed that the rating would be for the title vs. the indicators within the title; "Relationship with Board Members", etc.

Mr. Cacioppo expressed his satisfaction with the form as submitted. Personally, Mr. Cacioppo is pleased with the job Mr. Stokes is doing.

Mrs. Conrad suggested that the Board move forward with using the submitted form for the 2012 Evaluation of Mr. Stokes.

Mrs. Crossman suggested that the word included in Item #7 be changed to "recognizes" vs. "recognized".

The suggestion was also made that "Outstanding" be omitted from the rating choices.

Mrs. Myers commented on establishing measurable targets associated with the Teachers and Leaders Council (TLC). Mrs. Myers provided an example as it pertained to her as a Speech Pathologist; what would be the goal to measure her, other than the goals established for her students? An example might be; would they look for a portion of students that stutter vs. ones that no longer stutter? Mrs. Myers believes that one standard or form may not be applicable to another Superintendent. In completing an evaluation, Mrs. Myers believes it is appropriate to include established goals.

To finalize the evaluation for the current year, Mr. Reynolds suggested removing items #3 and #4 under the title of "Educational and Professional Leadership", as they pertain to comments already included in the evaluation.

It was moved by Mr. Steve Reynolds, seconded by Mrs. Stacie Wilke-McCulloch, **that the Carson City School District Board of Trustees approve the prepared evaluation pages, minus the additions of Items #3 and #4, suggested by Mr. Cacioppo for the evaluation of Mr. Stokes for last year.** Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Conrad noted that the corrections would be completed by Mrs. Renae Cortez, Administrative Assistant and emailed to Board Members to complete and return by Tuesday, March 19, 2013.

Mr. Swirczek asked Mr. Pavlakis for clarification about completing and presenting the evaluation at a public meeting. Mr. Pavlakis explained that the outlined process is acceptable; each Board member will complete the form, submit it to Mrs. Cortez and she will submit them to Mrs. Conrad, Board President, who will collate the information, where the summarized document will be presented publicly at the March 26, 2013 Board meeting. At that time, each Board member will have the opportunity to make additional comments.

Mr. Reynolds asked if it was acceptable to present a copy of the evaluation to Mr. Stokes, prior to the March 26, 2013 Board meeting. Mrs. Conrad did not see a problem with providing Mr. Stokes a copy prior to the meeting.

Mr. Swirczek asked Mr. Stokes if he was in agreement with the evaluation form. Mr. Stokes explained that he has not seen anything that would cause him to have any reason for concern. In addition, he feels supported in his job and lucky to work for the District.

As a helpful tool, Mrs. Conrad suggested that Mr. Stokes complete an evaluation form too.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch would like Mr. Stokes to provide Board members with feedback on things they could do to help assist him in achieving his goals.

Mrs. Myers commented on the evaluation format used by Lyon County School District.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO CONSIDER OPTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH POTENTIAL PURCHASE AND/OR ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY DUE EAST OF CARSON HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Stokes explained that during the Superintendent's Report at the February 26, 2013 Board meeting, he received a letter from Ms. Dorothy Arraiz offering the district the "Right of First Refusal to Purchase" land east of Carson High School. Ms. Arraiz is the recipient of a portion of the Lompa Ranch.

Mr. Stokes wanted Board members to have the opportunity to discuss some of the possibilities and or issues associated with the property. Mr. Stokes commented on concerns regarding purchasing the land.

Mr. Stokes presented a copy of a map that was provided by Mr. Keith Shaffer, Projects Manager that outlined the property and concerns associated with the land; Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodway. Additional considerations include; economic conditions, future use, etc. Mr. Stokes would like to provide Ms. Arraiz with a response to her letter.

Mr. Cacioppo commented on concerns regarding finances. Mr. Cacioppo also commented on his experience in working with FEMA; floodways, floodplains, etc. In addition, Mr. Cacioppo commented on how the designations in this area may change over the next several years, as some of the mapping was completed prior to the development of the area.

Mrs. Conrad questioned whether it is a good economic decision; however, are there possibilities of expanding some current programs; Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Greenhouse Project, etc. Mr. Stokes commented about the possibility of leasing a portion of the property.

Mrs. Myers spoke of leasing opportunities available to a school district in California and wondered what types of possibilities there might be for the district to lease the land. Mr. Stokes explained that agriculture ground can be leased for pasture; livestock, honey bees, etc.

Mr. Swirczek asked for clarification on the parcels. Mr. Stokes understands that the property has not been sub-divided.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch commented on the possibility of identifying parcels that might be of interest.

Mr. Reynolds commented on the number of things that could potentially be done with the parcels.

Mrs. Crossman believes Mr. Stokes needs to be given the opportunity to meet and discuss the options with Ms. Arraiz.

Mrs. Stokes expressed the desire to schedule time to meet with Ms. Arraiz.

Mrs. Conrad asked if any discussions have taken place with Ms. Karen Abowd regarding the Greenhouse Project and the land. Mr. Stokes has briefly discussed this topic with Ms. Abowd.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch asked if anything had been identified in the Master Plan that would create a need for the land. Mr. Stokes doesn't believe there will be a need based on the anticipated growth for Carson City.

Mr. Cacioppo commented on another area for consideration; the drainage ditch on the north side of Carson High School. Some discussions may consist of the possibility of an easement for drainage purposes.

It was moved by Mr. Ron Swirczek, seconded by Mrs. Barbara Myers, **that the Carson City School District Board of Trustees direct the Superintendent to pursue all options associated with the potential purchase and/or acquisition of property East of Carson High School.** Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Wilke asked that time be given for additional Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rebecca Matley, junior student at Carson High School addressed the Board regarding the implementation of Standard Student Attire at Carson High School. Rebecca asked that the Board put faith in the student's voice. Rebecca created a Facebook page on Saturday, March 9, 2013, with over 120 participants willing to sign a petition.

Rebecca attended a committee meeting regarding uniforms and was disappointed by the selection of students on the committee; 3 members from Student Council, who are for uniforms. For two days, Rebecca conducted a survey, interviewing 135 students who represent the demographics of student population. Of the 135 students interviewed, 11% were pro-uniform, 80% did not want uniforms and 9% were undecided.

Rebecca asked how she should voice her opinion and was told she would need to attend the committee meetings. After hearing about the committee meeting from a classmate, Rebecca attended the meeting ready to participate. It was at that time, an interest was shown to involve students in the committee meetings.

Mr. Ron Beck, Principal, Carson High School when discussing the support of student body, said he only interviewed the two Student Body Council classes. Rebecca explained that the two Student Body Council classes do not represent all the diverse student body. Rebecca doesn't believe both sides of the argument for uniforms has been heard; therefore, it was unfair.

Rebecca believes students are losing their ability to express themselves, as they do not have a voice in this opinion. Rebecca commented on a quote made by Mr. Beck on being 2/3 of the way to presenting SSA to the School Board. Rebecca commented on how students will be affected by the decision of implementing Standard Student Attire.

Rebecca commented on the concerns associated with implementing uniforms at Carson High School; safety. The implementation of uniforms would help identify non Carson High School students from being on campus. Rebecca believes the implementation of a closed campus for all students, as well as locking all access doors, with the exception of the main entrance door, will reduce the number of individuals available to come on campus.

Rebecca referenced a case from the United States Supreme Court; *Tinker vs. Des Moines Independent Community School District* in 1969; Freedom of expression can only be infringed upon to protect students if the requirements for discipline and safety are not being met. Rebecca doesn't believe students are in an immediate threat of danger.

Rebecca commented on the area of concern brought forth by Mr. Beck regarding dress code violations and how they would be resolved by implementing Standard Student Attire. During Rebecca's interviews of 135 students, she noted only 2 violations of the current dress code. In presenting her findings to the Standard Student Attire committee, comments were made about the amount of cleavage shown by female students. At this time, no appropriate neckline has been identified. Rebecca believes students are being punished for a vague dress code; instead of saying skirts and shorts need to be mid-thigh, say they need to be 2" above the knee.

Rebecca believes the real question to ask is; is there a need for uniforms at Carson High School. Rebecca would like to see Carson High School serve as a gateway to adulthood. In addition, she believes freedom of expression is important to the argument.

In closing, Rebecca read into the record a copy of a petition that will be signed by students on March 13 – 15, 2013.

Mr. Swirczek recognized Rebecca for her comments and clarity of thought in addressing the Board.

Mr. Swirczek asked Mr. Pavlakis if this topic needed to be agendaized in order to continue the discussion, as he would like to have a better understanding of the parameters associated with Standard Student Attire. Mr. Pavlakis explained that the topic would need to be placed on an agenda for further discussions regarding the current policy. Mr. Swirczek would like additional information regarding the existing policy, understanding the process, etc.

Mr. Stokes met with Mr. Beck and explained that he was pursuing Standard Student Attire. Mr. Stokes suggested to Mr. Beck that he make sure to follow Regulation 519.8, Standard Student Attire. The regulation outlines the necessary steps for implementing uniforms.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch explained that two parent meetings have been scheduled; Tuesday, March 19, 2013 and Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch encouraged parents to attend the meetings, as of today, no parent input has been received. Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch explained that she arrived at 2:10 p.m. for the 2:00 p.m. Student Council meeting and found the meeting to be completed.

Rebecca explained that when she presented her survey, she was offended by the level of disregard by teachers.

Mrs. Myers clarified that students were in attendance and participated in the student survey; athletes, Advanced Placement (AP) students, etc.

Mr. Cacioppo verified that the meetings scheduled for March 19, 2013 and March 27, 2013 are for parents only. Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch explained that students are not allowed and not allowed to speak.

Mrs. Myers cautioned Rebecca about doing anything on campus. Rebecca received prior approval from administration. Mrs. Myers requested that assurance be given to students as they move forward in the process associated with Standard Student Attire.

Mrs. Conrad cautioned Rebecca about what she plans to wear while obtaining signatures on the petition. Rebecca assured Board Members that she wouldn't violate the dress code.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Mrs. Barbara Myers, seconded by Mr. Steve Reynolds, **that the Carson City School Board of Trustees approve consent agenda items (A), (B), (C), (D), (J), and (K), including the Revision as submitted.** Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

Mrs. Crossman asked that the implementation of uniforms at Carson High School be addressed at a future meeting.

Present agenda items to Mr. Richard Stokes or President Steve Reynolds.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the Carson City School District Board of Trustees will be on Tuesday, March 26, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

There will be no further business to come before the members of the Board in public meeting; President Conrad declared the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Ron Swirczek, Clerk

Date