

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

Tuesday, November 10, 2009

7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Carson City School District Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President Norm Scoggin at the Sierra Room, Community Center, 851 E. William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

ROLL CALL: Members Present
Norm Scoggin, Vice President
Joanna Wilson, Clerk
Jim Lemaire, Member
Lynnette Conrad, Member
Steve Reynolds, Member
Stacie Wilke-McCulloch, Member
Mr. Richard Stokes, Superintendent
Mike Pavlakis, Legal Counsel

Members Absent
Trustee, District 6

ACTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mrs. Joanna Wilson, seconded by Mr. Jim Lemaire **that the Carson City School District Board of Trustees adopt the agenda as submitted.** Motion carried unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Mr. Pete Sinnott, Cross Country Coach, Carson High School introduced members of the Girl's and Boy's Cross Country State Championship Teams. Mr. Sinnott thanked Assistant Coach Jeanne Stelzer for her work. The teams had a combined cumulative GPA of 3.6.
- Mr. Sinnott introduced Richard Shroy, Individual State Champion and Cross Country Athlete of the Year. Richard has always been a team leader.
- Mr. Stokes recognized Mr. Pete Sinnott for being named Cross Country Coach of the Year
- On behalf of the District, Mr. Stokes expressed condolences to the family of former Carson City School District Superintendent, Mr. Harry Dickson. Mr. Dickson began his career with the Carson City School District in 1957 as a Social Studies Teacher, working in several positions prior to serving as Superintendent from 1983 to 1987.
- Mr. Stokes reported that approximately 2000 doses of the H1N1 vaccine was administered to elementary age students. There will be H1N1 vaccines administered at the following schools:
 - Pioneer High School – Friday, November 13th
 - Carson Middle School and Eagle Valley Middle School–Tuesday, November 17th
 - Carson High School – Monday, November 23rd and Tuesday, November 24th
- There will be no school on Wednesday, November 11, 2009, in honor of Veteran's Day
- Mr. Stokes reported that since the beginning of the school year, there has been an approximate utility savings of \$45,000

BOARD REPORTS

- Jessica Dang reported on the following activities at Carson High School:
 - The Girls' Soccer Team and Boys' Football Team both won their league division

- The Academic Letter Ceremony will be held on Thursday, November 12th at 7:00 p.m.
- Steven Bass reported on the following activities at Pioneer High School:
 - Students and staff extend a thank you to the Veteran's in Carson City
 - Pioneer High School is having a canned food drive during the month of November; donations can be brought to the main office.
 - Student Leadership meetings are held on Mondays and Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m.
 - Diplomacy Club meetings are held throughout the week from 2:45 – 4:45 p.m.

Mr. Scoggin announced that the annual Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB) meeting begins on November 17, 2009. Mr. Jim Lemaire will serve as President, NASB for the coming year.

Mrs. Stacie Wilke-McCulloch reminded everyone that the Veteran's Day plaques are still "staked" out on the front lawn at Carson Middle School. Everyone is encouraged to go by and see them.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

There were no association reports.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PRESENTATION ON SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CENTERS (COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS)

Ms. Valerie Cain, School Based Child Health Services Coordinator, presented information on School Based Health Centers (SBHC). As a Registered Nurse, Ms. Cain has witnessed students with health conditions that have taken them out of the class for various reasons. Ms. Cain believes in the importance of providing health care to students in the schools.

Ms. Cain provided statistics on the number of uninsured children in the nation. Ms. Cain reviewed information from the National Assembly of School Based Centers (NASBC), an organization in Washington, D.C. Their mission is to improve the health status of children by advancing SBHC care. There are currently 1,900 SBHC in 43 states, including Washington D.C. Ms. Barbara Howe, former Board Trustee has secured funding from the State Health Division.

There are six elementary schools in the Carson City School District, four being Title I schools. Approximately 2,300 students attend Title I schools and 3,387 receive Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL). Also, there are approximately 380 students eligible for the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

A "Health Needs Assessment Survey" was taken in May 2009, by staff, parents and students to help identify possible gaps in the needs and resources in the community. The results of the survey provided information on the number of uninsured children and the excessive use of emergency rooms for uninsured families.

Ms. Cain defined a SBHC; the unity of education and health for the success in classroom and life. A healthcare model for comprehensive primary care, designed to serve all students, with a focus on the uninsured. A Health Center is staffed by a variety of team members; psychologist, nurse practitioner, dentist, etc. They can provide children with needed health services. A Health Center also provides children the opportunity for cost effective primary health services, improves access to quality care, located on site for a safe environment and at no cost to the student.

School aged children, along with the school would benefit from a Health Center. Studies have shown that schools with a SBHC are safer and healthier. The centers can also provide same day appointments, medication on site, health screenings and prevention.

Federal and State funding has served as the primary source for School Based Health Service Programs. Several states have used other resources. There are currently three SBHC Bills that have been introduced into Congress. The "School Based Health Clinic Establishment Act 2009" is currently in the House of Representatives, Bill 3003; would authorize a federal grant program to fund SBHC. Additional Bills are in both the House of Representatives and Senate; "Healthy Schools Act", Bill 1034 in the Senate and 2840 in the House of Representatives. The Bills would mandate reimbursement for SBHC that provide Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage to students. CHIP is known in Nevada as Nevada Check-up.

SBHC have partnerships with Communities in Schools. They also work cooperatively with school nurses, counselors, teachers and site administration. Ms. Cain has received several letters of support from members of the community. Ms. Cain would like to formulate an advisory board of community members, parents, youth and family organizations to participate in planning and overseeing the SBHC.

Ms. Cain believes that Empire Elementary School would be the best fit for a center. They are the highest risk school in the district with over 80% of the students receiving FRL. A portable classroom that backs up to Stanton Drive is available for easy access. Ms. Evelyn Allred, Principal, Empire Elementary School is supportive of the idea. A draft copy of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was also provided to Board Trustees.

Ms. Louise Helton, Communities in Schools, State Director presented information on Communities in Schools (CIS); a non-profit organization established 30 years ago, however serving in Nevada since 2003. The organization targets districts with high drop-out rates.

The mission of CIS is to make connections for children on things needed to make them successful and to do it directly with schools. Ms. Helton provided a brief demonstration of the services they provide; on-site medical clinics, dental and vision services, clothes closet, backpacks with nutritious food sent home, etc. CIS goes into a school to find out what the needs are for the children to be successful.

CIS is responsible for providing health care, contracting with doctors, etc. There is no charge to the children; CIS pays the doctor for their services. Last year, approximately 4,000 children from over 200 schools in Clark County received services from CIS. CIS has received grants from United Way to assist in funding the program. They also have partnerships with community organizations.

CIS works to help children succeed and achieve in school; behavior and attendance improvement. Services are being brought to 1.4 million children everyday in over 3200 schools in 27 states, including Nevada.

Mrs. Conrad commented on the presentation and inquired about partnerships with organizations in the community that are providing similar services. Ms. Helton explained that CIS prefers to partner with organizations that are already serving children. Mrs. Conrad asked about confidential issues and obtaining consent for medical services. Ms. Helton explained that school permission slips are sent home and parents bring children to the school for services.

Mrs. Wilson shared her concerns regarding the presentation; surveys that were taken without the knowledge of the Trustees and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Empire Elementary School. Mr. Stokes explained that he has had conversations with Ms. Cain, Mrs. Sheila Story, Chief Nurse, CCSD and Ms. Barbara Howe, resigned Board Trustee. Ms. Cain explained that Empire Elementary School had been looked at approximately a month ago by herself and Ms. Howe, at which time Ms. Howe provided a copy of the MOU to Ms. Cain. Ms. Cain explained that at this time, the presentation is for informational purposes and that nothing has been signed.

Mr. Scoggin asked that Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Conrad look into SBHC and CIS and provide information to Administration and Board Trustees. Mr. Stokes explained that he has not given any direction on the agenda item and the intention was for informational purposes.

Mr. Lemaire inquired how it was determined that Empire Elementary was selected and does CIS select the school they want to support. Ms. Helton explained that CIS becomes involved only if invited by a School District and the location is also determined by the District.

Mrs. Conrad is in favor of SBHC and feels that this would benefit the community and students in the District.

Public Comment:

Ms. Claudia Funk, Early Childhood Teacher, Empire Elementary School spoke regarding the effects the SBHC would have on the Pre-Kindergarten Program and Parenting Component, if half of the portable were used for a SBHC. If the program is approved, she would like other locations to be considered before a final decision is made.

Ms. Sheila Ward addressed the Board with questions she feels should be asked prior to any decisions being made regarding SBHC.

- Where is the money coming from?
- Where is the legislative authority?
- What strings are attached?
- Is there full disclosure and transparency of policies and procedures of the foundation of providing the grant?

Ms. Ward also provided information and handouts on several foundations. Copies are included in the permanent record.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF A TRUSTEE TO SERVE AS THE DELEGATE TO THE NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS (NASB)

It was moved by Mr. Jim Lemaire, seconded by Mrs. Joanna Wilson that **the Carson City School Board of Trustees appoint Mr. Steve Reynolds to serve as the Delegate to the Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB)**. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF A TRUSTEE TO SERVE ON THE SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE

Mr. Scoggin reminded Board Trustees that the School Naming Committee is a standing committee and would be used in the event there was a need to name a school, etc. Mr. Scoggin asked Mr. Lemaire and Mrs. Conrad to serve on the committee.

It was moved by Mrs. Joanna Wilson, seconded by Mrs. Stacie Wilke-McCulloch that **the Carson City School Board of Trustees appoint Mr. Jim Lemaire and Mrs. Lynnette Conrad to serve on the School Naming Committee**. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES TO SERVE AS INDIVIDUAL LIAISONS TO SCHOOLS LOCATED WITHIN THE TRUSTEE'S REPRESENTED DISTRICT

Mr. Scoggin reviewed with Board Trustees the sites he would like them to represent in the District. Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch asked for clarification on the agenda item. Mr. Scoggin explained that by having designated liaisons for schools, information is brought and shared at Board Meetings, therefore improving relationships and communications with the sites.

It was moved by Mr. Jim Lemaire, seconded by Mrs. Joanna Wilson that **the Carson City School Board of Trustees approve the following appointments:**

**Norm Scoggin – Fritsch Elementary School
Lynnette Conrad – Bordewich/Bray Elementary School
New Appointed Trustee – Fremont Elementary School**

Stacie Wilke-McCulloch – Mark Twain Elementary School
Steve Reynolds – Empire Elementary School
Joanna Wilson – Al Seeliger Elementary School
Jim Lemaire – Carson Middle School
Steve Reynolds – Eagle Valley Middle School
Norm Scoggin – Carson High School
Jim Lemaire – Pioneer High School/Opportunity School
Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF 3 TRUSTEES TO SERVE ON THE MASTER PLAN ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Scoggin recommended Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch and Mr. Lemaire to serve on the Master Plan Administrative Committee.

It was moved by Mr. Steve Reynolds, seconded by Mrs. Joanna Wilson that **the Carson City School Board of Trustees appoint the following 3 trustees: Mrs. Joanna Wilson, Mrs. Stacie Wilke-McCulloch and Mr. Jim Lemaire to serve on the Master Plan Administrative Committee.** Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON 2009-2010 DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLAN PER NRS 385.348

Mrs. Susan Keema reported that the District is required to submit to the State, a Board approved District Improvement Plan. The plan is the District's academic vision. The committee is made up of elementary, middle and high school parents, teachers and administrators. The goal of the District Improvement Plan (DIP) is to increase student achievement, at all levels, for all students in the Carson City School District.

The objective for the District is all sub-groups make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. The targets for 2009-2010 for Elementary/Middle School are 63.8% in ELA and 65.9% in Math and High School are 86.7% in ELA and 71.3% in Math.

The focus areas are curriculum, instruction and assessment. The curriculum maps are currently being updated to reflect the latest revisions to the State Standards. Teach for Success (T4S) is still being used in the District. As part of T4S, Administrators and Department Heads are completing classroom walkthroughs and reporting on their findings bi-monthly. The data is submitted to the District Statistician.

In addition, for the second year, Professional Development Communities (PLC) is being utilized. Teachers are meeting in collaborative groups once a week to discuss student data. In order to benefit students, assessment data is continually being reviewed. The approved District Improvement Plan will be posted on the website; www.carsoncityschools.com

It was moved by Mrs. Lynnette Conrad, seconded by Mr. Jim Lemaire that **the Carson City School Board of Trustees approve the 2009-2010 District Improvement Plan as submitted and the Plan be submitted to the required agencies in accordance with NRS 385.348.** Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF 2009-2010 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN PER NRS 385.357

Mrs. Susan Keema reported that all school sites including Carson Montessori Charter School had their School Improvement Plans (SIP) submitted by the November 1st deadline date. The plans have been reviewed and approved. The committee is made up of parents, teachers and administrators. A summary of each schools goal was included in board packets.

PRESENTATION ON DISTANCE EDUCATION

Mrs. Susan Keema presented part one of a three part series regarding On-Line Learning for the Carson City School District. The focus of part one is Credit Recovery; a student has taken a course but did not pass the class. Part two of the presentation will take place during the November 24, 2009 Board Meeting and part three will be presented during the December 8, 2009 Board Meeting.

The Department of Education requires an application be completed prior to a District being considered for Distance Education. Meetings with site Administrators have taken place, with meetings scheduled to take place with Counselors. Mrs. Keema has looked at On-Line Learning from several other counties; Elko, Churchill, Washoe County and Clark County. The presentation will provide information for individualized learning and flexibility for students.

Mrs. Keema is proposing an On-Line Learning Pilot that would begin in January, 2010 at Pioneer High School with the possibility of serving other schools. The goal is to have a District wide program available in August, 2010. On-Line learning is currently being used in the Adult Education Program and by current district employees. The district is also involved in Pathways; two teachers from the middle schools will have a technology loaded class provided by a grant. The program requires on-line statewide professional development.

During the Strategic Advisory Committee meetings, it was suggested that On-Line Learning be looked at in order to retain or gain additional students in the District. On-Line Learning would also benefit the following:

- Quality of services for At Risk Students in Middle School and High School
- Students unable to attend school due to health issues
- Students with behavior issues that might prevent them from attending an alternate or traditional high school
- Credit deficient student

Parent permission and support will be required prior to a student participating in the on-line program. The program requires the purchase of licensing and can be used at Pioneer High School during the day, at the middle schools after school for credit recovery classes and at Adult Education in the evening. The pilot program would be effective until June 30, 2010 allowing the use of the program during summer school at the middle schools and Pioneer High School. The district has the proper equipment to operate the pilot program. The program is competency based.

Mr. Steve Leitz, Regional Manager, Backbone Communications presented information on the competency based program, A+ Anywhere Learning System. Backbone Communications provides software, support and services to help students succeed. They are currently in Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Northern California and New Mexico.

The A+ program is a computer assisted learning tool for teachers and schools, not a replacement for schools that offers a variety of programs. The following assessments in A+ are:

- Course Assessment; taken by a student by grade level with Pre/Post Tests given to determine student growth
- Adaptive Assessment; "Smart Testing", the schools decides what grade level to start the assessment and how deep to go
- District Driven Assessment; "Benchmark Testing", can be determined prior to High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE)

Mr. Leitz provided a brief power point presentation on what A+ would look like. The interface information can be changed to reflect the District and/or School information. Mr. Leitz reviewed what an actual assessment would look like. If a student has seen a question during an assessment and has to leave prior to completing the assessment, they will not be allowed to review the question once they have looked up the answer at home. The system has eliminated cheating options.

The content areas are Math, Science, Social Studies and English Language Arts. The system trainer's set-up the program based on individual district goals. Credit recovery assessments

would list the lessons a student would need in order to become proficient. Full course assessments would require the student to take all necessary lessons. The system also has a variety of available reports; progress report, skills based improvement report, etc.

A+ Learning System partners with Cambridge University Press, National Library of Virtual Manipulatives and Encyclopedia Britannica. There are 170 courses available in addition to AP courses. There are enhancements and interactive material available for elementary, middle school and high school lessons.

Mr. Lemaire asked Mrs. Keema how the material would be incorporated with the requirements and standards of the District. Mrs. Keema explained that the program has been used in other districts; therefore work has begun in associating them with the State Standards.

Mr. Leitz commented on the Nevada Department of Education approval letter from Rick Rasmussen, Distance Education Consultant regarding the approved courses. A+ Learning is continually providing content information to Mr. Rasmussen for approval.

Mr. Jason Zona, Principal, Pioneer High School provided a power point presentation on how the program might benefit the district. Pioneer High School serves grades 9th – 12th and students are accepted by application. Opportunity School is a behavior school that serves Carson High School and Pioneer High School.

Mr. Zona provided an overview on the three separate areas that could benefit from distance learning:

- Students that go through Juvenile Detention do not stay long, they lose classroom time. The students are usually placed at Opportunity School. Last year approximately 90 students attended Opportunity School. The students attend three classes a day. A distance learning program would afford students the opportunity to catch up on their credits.
- Approximately 250 students were enrolled in the Alternative Education Program during 2008-2009, where 98% of the students were credit deficient
- Since October, Pioneer High School has seen a 20% growth in enrollment

There are many reasons why some students become credit deficient, many beyond their control; economic conditions, illness, working students, transient families, etc.

Distance education will allow students the option to retrieve credits during the school day without adding additional staff. The program would allow students the opportunity to earn credit in multiple subjects, earn their way out of the disciplinary school and eligible to return to Carson High School or Pioneer High School.

Mr. Zona highlighted several key points to distance education:

- Allows credit recovery
- No additional staff
- Maintain cohorts and students graduate with their class

Mr. Steve Reynolds inquired as to the cost of licensing. Mrs. Keema explained that the expense for 5th – 12th grade curriculum would be approximately \$28,000 for 30 licenses. Mr. Reynolds asked if other than the information presented, are there additional scenarios that the district might consider, i.e. students taking all their class using distance education. Mrs. Keema commented that a coaching process would need to take place between the parent and school. Not all students are good on-line learners.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Jim Lemaire, seconded by Mrs. Lynnette Conrad **that the Carson City School Board of Trustees approve the consent agenda.** Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

There were no future items at this time. Present agenda items to Mr. Richard Stokes or Vice President Norm Scoggin.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the Carson City School District Board of Trustees will be on Tuesday, November 24, 2009.

ADJOURNMENT

There will be no further business to come before the members of the Board in public meeting; President Barbara Howe declared the meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Joanna Wilson, Clerk

Date