

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

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

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 President Stacie Wilke-McCulloch at the Sierra Room, Community Center, 851 E. William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

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

Members Absent
 None

Board Member, Ron Swirczek led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mrs. Laurel Crossman, seconded by Mr. Steve Reynolds, **that the Carson City School District Board of Trustees adopt the agenda as submitted, omitting agenda item #9.** Motion carried unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Mr. Stokes introduced Mr. Josh Billings, Science Teacher, Eagle Valley Middle School. Mr. Billings has taught at Eagle Valley Middle School for 10 years and has been the Science Olympiad coach for 4 years. The students introduced themselves and provided a brief summary of the events they participated in. Students received various medals in their respective events.

Mr. Stokes asked for additional information on how Science Olympiad works. Mr. Billings explained that Science Olympiad consisted of 23 events this year; however, it can range from 23 to 24 events. Sample events include Science Knowledge; entomology, anatomy; Scientific Process; disease detectives, problem solving etc.; Engineering, robotics, helicopters, etc. The team with the lowest scores wins. The students begin in October and finish up at the State competition in March. The students work two days per week after school, 1 ½ hours each time. The students may also work on their projects before school and during lunch. The scientific process is gone through with each student; a mentorship with coaches and parents, it is completely student centered. Twelve teams competed at the State level.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch commented on the number of charter schools and tech schools in Clark County that compete in the Science Olympiad.

Mr. Billings provided reasons why he became a teacher; to be a guide. He also finds it a privilege to be a part of Science Olympiad.

Mrs. Crossman asked for information on how a student becomes a member of the Science Olympiad Team. Mr. Billings explained that the Science Olympiad team is open to all students; no selection process.

Mr. Cacioppo commented on how he participated in Science Olympiad at Carson Middle School several years ago and related it to his profession as an engineer.

Mr. Billings acknowledged several parents and community members for their support. Mr. Billings also recognized Western Nevada Supply and Sign Pro for their generous donations of plumbing equipment and a banner.

- Mr. Stokes introduced Mrs. Lisa Stocke-Koop, Eagle Valley Middle School. Mrs. Stocke-Koop provided an update on the District's Science Night and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) night. This event began in the district in 2005 and has grown each year, becoming bigger and better. Mrs. Stocke-Koop is looking at adding the Art element to next year's event. The event is primarily run by the students. Mrs. Stocke-Koop recognized the leadership students from Eagle Valley Middle School and Carson High School for their assistance and support with the event. Mrs. Stocke-Koop acknowledged various members of the community and district staff for presenting at the event and for their contributions in making the event so successful. Mrs. Stocke-Koop extended a special thank you to Mr. Lee Conley, Principal, Eagle Valley Middle School and Dr. Sue Moulden-Horton, Vice Principal, Eagle Valley Middle School for their support.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch commented on the success of the event. Mr. Conley recognized Mrs. Stocke-Koop for her hard work with the STEM night; event embraces the entire community.

Mr. Swirczek acknowledged Mrs. Stocke-Koop for her hard work and dedication with the event.

Mr. Cacioppo commented on how the event has grown since beginning at Carson Middle School in 2005.

Mrs. Crossman recognized that the event is not just for middle school students, it's open to students of all ages.

- Mr. Stokes recognized the Varsity Wrestling Team for their accomplishments; 2013-2014 Sierra League Champions. Six students qualified for the State Wrestling Tournament in Las Vegas, Nevada.
- National School Breakfast Week was March 3rd – 7th; the event promotes the school breakfast program. The district celebrated by having Ace the Fox; ARAMARK mascot visit each school.
- Full-day kindergarten registration continues each day from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The following information is required:
 - Birth certificate and immunization record
 - Must be 5 years of age on or before September 30, 2014
 - Proof of residency in Carson City School DistrictContact your neighborhood school for enrollment packets or additional information
- Pre-K classes will be available at Bordewich Bray, Mark Twain and Empire Elementary Schools
- Monday, March 24th is an Early Release Day for students; classes dismiss at the following times:
 - Pioneer High School – 12:50 p.m.
 - Carson High School – 12:40 p.m.
 - Middle Schools – 1:00 p.m.
 - Elementary Schools – 1:40 p.m.
- Elementary Parent Conferences will be held March 25th and 26th; classes dismiss at 12:40 p.m.
- Elementary and Middle School Writing Tests will be administered for 5th and 8th grade students during the weeks of March 24th – April 4th

BOARD REPORTS

Jake Jones reported on the following activities at Carson High School:

- Student Body Council and Officer Filings opened on March 11, 2014; packets are available to pick-up at the student store, attendance office and Room 250. Packets are due on March 14, 2014; campaigning begins on March 17, 2014.
- Class Officer filings begin on March 24, 2014
- Boys' Varsity Baseball tournament will be held at Reno High School on March 14 – 15, 2014
- Swim Team has a meet at Carson Aquatic Facility against Reed High School on March 15, 2014
- Varsity Baseball game vs. North Valleys High School on March 17, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.
- Varsity Softball game vs. North Valleys High School on March 17, 2014 at 3:45 p.m.
- Track meet will be held at Carson High School on March 22, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.
- Golf Tournament at Wolf Run Golf Course on March 25, 2014

There was no report from Pioneer High School.

Ms. Stowell reported on the following activities at Seeliger Elementary School:

- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting will be held on March 17, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. in the library
- Free dress-day for students on March 21, 2014; bring \$1.00 for the Seeliger Scholarship Fund

Mrs. Conrad reported on the following:

- Bordewich Bray Elementary School
 - Phase I construction for the single point entry is complete; entrance is on King Street
 - Phase II construction for the new library will begin soon; estimated completion time of 5 weeks
 - 3rd quarter Glitter and Glue art activity will be held on March 14, 2014
 - Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is sponsoring Craft Night on March 12, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Crossman reported on the following activities:

- Fritsch Elementary School:
 - Family Math Night held recently was a successful event
 - "Hop on Pop" Breakfast was successful; over 200 attended the event
 - Spring Pictures will be taken on March 14, 2014
 - Choir Palooza will be held on March 20, 2014 at Carson High School
 - 5th grade Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) graduation will be held on March 21, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.
 - PTA meeting will be held in the library at 5:30 p.m. on March 25, 2014

Mr. Cacioppo reported on the following activities:

- Carson Middle School:
 - Talent Show will be held on March 13, 2014 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria
 - All 8th grade students will be exploring Career Day from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. at Carson High School on March 13, 2014
 - Orchestra students will be competing in the Washoe County School District's Orchestra Festival on March 13, 2014
 - Wrestling team will be competing at Eagle Valley Middle School on March 15, 2014
- Carson High School:
 - Driver's Ed classes will be offered at Western Nevada College (WNC) on March 1 – 22, 2014 and April 14 – 17, 2014

- Prom tickets go on sale on March 17, 2014 through April 4, 2014 in the Student Finance Office, cost is \$35.00
- University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) College representative will be on campus on March 19, 2014 at 1:15 p.m. in the Tech Center Conference Room
- Skills USA students have a mandatory meeting on March 19, 2014
- Carson High School Football Boosters is offering the Mac Wilson Scholarship to seniors who played football during the 2014 season; applications are available in the Guidance Office
- Stanford Summer Institute is available for highly motivated students who are 14 – 17 years of age to work on the Stanford Campus during the summer; 3 to 4 week program, exploring various topics
- Senior Projects will be presented on May 12, 2014; anyone interested can contact Mrs. Lily Reedy at Carson High School

Mr. Swirczek provided a copy of the monthly newsletter from the Carson City Library. Mr. Swirczek recognized that they have adopted the district's Strategic Plan and we have adopted theirs. In addition, the library had an event for the Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) programs in the middle schools. The event is associated with Objective 1, Goal 1 of the Strategic Plan; provide every student with opportunities for extended school programs and enhanced critical thinking, problem solving skills, improve academic performance and promote student wellness and allow for hands-on application skills. Students came to the library, researched, analyzed, evaluated, role played; mayor, sheriff, home builder, etc., and made decisions based on data in the community.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch publicly thanked everyone for participating in Band-O-Rama. Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch recently attended the Wellness Advisory Committee meeting; looking at stricter guidelines from the School Nutrition Association with the USDA Standards. Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch will be attending the Family Engagement Summit in Reno on March 12, 2014. The event is hosted by Senator Debbie Smith and Ms. Barbara Clark, Washoe County School District Trustee. Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch reminded Board Trustees that the deadline to complete the bullying program provided by the District Office is March 31, 2014.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch reported on Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB):

- 24 Hour Effective Board Workshop will be held on March 28 – 29, 2014 at the Hyatt Place in Reno, Nevada

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

There were no association reports.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PRESENTATION ON CARSON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT INVOLVEMENT ON PROJECT RESEARCH AND EDUCATION COOPERATIVE OCCULTATION NETWORK (RECON); A PROGRAM DESIGNED TO PROVIDE ADVANCED OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS IN SCIENCE

Mr. Scott Vickrey, Science Teacher and Science Department Chairperson, Carson High School summarized the Research and Education Cooperative Occultation Network (RECON) project. It is a collaborative effort with several entities; Dr. Marc Buie, Southwest Research Institute, Boulder, Colorado; Dr. John Keller, Cal-Poly, San Luis Obispo, California and Dr. Robert Collier, Western Nevada College (WNC). Mr. Vickrey commented on how the partnership outside Carson High School helps enrich the opportunities for students in the district.

Mr. Vickrey introduced Zoey Gray, 12th grade student, Carson High School. Zoey explained that the RECON project is part of her senior project and asked Board members to complete the Senior Project verification form. The project originated by Dr. Keller and Dr. Buie and is funded

by a grant from the National Science Foundation. One requirement of the grant includes the use of amateur community astronomers to assist in collecting data.

Zoey presented a power point presentation on what students in the project are studying. (A copy is included in the permanent record.) Students are studying objects in the solar system that are past Neptune; Trans-Neptunian Objects (TNOs); first discovered in the early 1900's. The TNOs are located in the Kuiper Belt (KBOs); approximately 1,000 have been discovered.

The goal of the RECON project is to find out more about the objects; size, composition, density, formation, etc., which may provide details associated with solar system formations. To learn more about the objects, students watch occultation events of stars. An occultation event is similar to a small lunar eclipse; object passes between the earth and a star, casting a shadow on the earth. If the observation is within the shadow path, the amount of time is recorded and compared to other data.

Zoey outlined the RECON process:

- Begin with an Occult Watcher; a program that predicts where, when and the duration of when an event may occur
- Observers use a an AAVSO; star plotting website to get a star chart that identifies the "target" star that is looked for
- Observers find the "target" star using the telescope and match it with the star chart
- The telescope tracks the star and records the occultation, recording the event using a program called LiMovie; which studies the light flux data of the star. The data is transferred to numbers and an Excel spreadsheet is generated in a graph.
- The final data is uploaded to International Occultation Timing Association (IOTA); which includes uploaded data from other locations

The Carson City RECON project works at the Jack C. Davis Observatory, WNC Campus. Zoey explained that the pilot network consists of 13 teams, with the hopes of having 40 teams along the west coast from Canada to Mexico.

Mr. Reynolds asked for the number of students participating in the project. Zoey explained that Carson High School has approximately 6 students that participate in the program full time. Mr. Reynolds asked if the program has room for additional students. Zoey explained that there is room for additional students to participate.

Mr. Swirczek asked Zoey about her plans after graduating from Carson High School. Zoey would like to attend school in Washington, California or Utah and study some type of Science. Zoey commented on how valuable this experience has been for her, especially the level of research.

Mr. Cacioppo inquired as to the number of occultation's that have been recorded. Zoey explained that most occultations are main belt asteroids by Mars; "practice" occultations. There have been 2 Kuiper Belt occultations, one on March 3, 2014, which was not a success. Zoey explained that Kuiper Belt objects are difficult to locate; events are typically 1 to 2 minutes. Zoey has recorded at least 10 main belt occultations.

Mr. Reynolds asked Zoey if she had any suggested changes to improve senior projects. Zoey explained that the senior project pushed her into making her selection based on how it might impact her life or that of someone else. One area of difficulty was time management due to her schedule with Advanced Placement (AP) Classes. Zoey commented on the importance of having equality between English IV and AP Class students.

Mr. Vickrey thanked Zoey for the amount of time and effort she has put in the RECON project.

Mr. Curtis Kortemeir, Science Teacher, Carson High School recognized Mr. Jim Bean, Science Teacher, Carson High School for bringing the RECON project to the school. Carson High School is one of 13 teams; each team works in a community with amateur astronomers and/or high school students and Science teachers. The program is replicated along Northern California to Southern Nevada, with the goal to have it from Canada to Mexico. Mr. Kortemeir noted that

without the Jack C. Davis Observatory at WNC, the Western Nevada Astronomical Society would not exist. Mr. Kortemeir noted that Mr. Bean and his students were filmed and included on the website for National Science Foundation. There are three sources of scientific funding in the United States; National Institute of Health, National Science Foundation and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

Mr. Reynolds commented on the opportunities that teachers are taking that will expose students to other areas that may benefit them in the future. Mr. Reynolds commented on the improvements associated with student presentations since implementing Senior Projects.

INFORMATIONAL UPDATE ON THE NEVADA EDUCATOR PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK (NEPF); PROPOSED STATEWIDE TEACHER EVALUATION SYSTEM

Dr. Jose Delfin, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources presented a power point presentation on the Nevada Educator Performance Framework (NEPF). (A copy is included in the permanent record.)

A common theme with NEPF is looking at performance from the teachers and leaders point of view and determining what makes it work. Once accomplished, a rubric will be developed by the Department of Education, which will be provided to all seventeen (17) school districts to rate the performance of teachers.

Dr. Delfin provided the acronyms and terminology associated with NEPF:

- TLC – Teachers and Leaders Council;
<http://www.doe.nv.gov/BoardsCountils/TeachersLeadersCouncil/>
- IFC – Interim Finance Committee
- Binary Evaluation System – Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory
- 4-Tier Evaluation System – Highly Effective, Effective, Minimally Effective and Ineffective
- NWRPDP – Northwest Regional Professional Development Program
- WestEd – Nonprofit agency that is founded on “Improving education through research, development and service”; <http://www.wested.org/about-us/>
- CRESST – Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards and Student Testing;
<http://www.cse.ucla.edu/about/mission.php>

Dr. Delfin provided background information on NEPF:

- Assembly Bill 222 (AB222) created the TLC in July, 2011; prior to 2011, there was an AdHoc Group called Teacher Effectiveness Team that was across the State, which represented most districts in Nevada
- TLC is comprised of teachers, administrators, School Board members, Nevada Department of Education (DOE), State Superintendent, parent and policy experts
- The group is tasked with making recommendations to the State Board of Education for establishing a statewide performance evaluation for teachers and administrators
- In addition to AB222, the Legislators passed a 50/50 process, which is currently not in practice. 50% of the teacher/leader evaluation is based on instructional/leadership practice and professional responsibilities, with the other 50% based on student achievement. At this time, student determination data has not been defined by the State.
- The evaluation rating system is moving from a binary system of satisfactory or unsatisfactory to a 4-tier system of; highly effective, effective, minimally effective or ineffective. To date, the final calculations have not been defined.

Current progress in the State includes the following:

- All teachers and administrators will be exposed to the evaluation standards this year
- Fritsch Elementary School is currently participating in the State’s evaluation study
- Decision on the 4-tier system should be known by August, 2014, which will be made by the IFC. Data is currently being collected, with expected reports being made at a later date.

Dr. Delfin introduced Ms. Cris Etchegoyhen, Northwest Regional Professional Development Program (NWRPDP) who is representing Kirsten Gleissner, Director, NWRPDP. Ms. Etchegoyhen provided information on NWRPDP's role associated with NEPF. Due to their experience with professional development, the Legislature named the Professional Development Programs to rollout the NEPF framework. In the northwest, which includes Carson City, Washoe County, Storey County, Lyon County, Churchill County and Douglas County School Districts, NWRPDP is serving each district according to their needs; professional development may vary from county to county.

Ms. Etchegoyhen also explained how and what teachers and administrators will need to know about the teacher and leadership expectations:

- What – participate in professional development to make the shifts in their teaching necessary and called for by the framework
- Teachers and administrators in the validation schools this year are expected to have a good understanding of the framework; teachers at Fritsch Elementary School are going more deeply into their professional development than teachers in other schools in the district

Ms. Etchegoyhen noted that required shifts appear to be minimal; teacher practice over the years has been at a level of excellence, therefore, not a lot of changes in what they need to do, just reorganize how they think about what they are doing.

- Fritsch Elementary School has been involved in four sessions of professional development this year; two hours for each session
- Administrators have also been included in the training
- Training has begun on non-validation schools; focused on an overview of the instructional standards for teachers, eventually moving into more depth
- First overview training was held on March 10, 2014 for Carson High School and Pioneer High School staff; elementary schools will receive training in May, 2014 and middle schools in the Fall, 2014
- There are two research partners; West Ed and CRESST. CRESST is a think tank that is a branch of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) lab school, initially brought in by TLC as a partner to provide research data and background literature review to identify the most high leverage instructional standards that needed to be a part of the framework. The work provided by CRESST was identified as the standards that were included by TLC in the evaluation framework.
- CRESST provides standardized training modules in an online format, with background research, lessons support, etc.
- West Ed is the vendor and other research partner selected to conduct the validation study
- 12 out of 17 districts in the State are participating in the validation study; samples of schools participating, represent 13% of the State's teachers and administrators
- Like Fritsch Elementary School, schools chosen to participate had experienced staff, administrative capacity, limited to new or probationary teachers, as well as a limited number of other initiatives for the school year
- Purpose is to test the components of the system; West Ed will be collecting data on the processes put into place, development of instruments and infrastructure statewide
- Teachers will be invited to complete an online survey with some teachers, administrators and schools providing additional data about the NEPF; focus groups, walk-throughs, etc.
- Principals' are being given advance notice; no surprise drop-in. Teachers and principals will be asked 4 sets of questions through the validation process:
 - What knowledge do you have of NEPF
 - Teachers - how have you begun to make the shift; Administrators - how have you begun to make your leadership shifts to support the teachers
 - What kind of resources and support have you received
 - What resources or support do you see yourself needing

Ms. Etchegoyhen introduced Mrs. Mary Garey, Principal, Fritsch Elementary School and Mr. Mike Walker, Vice Principal, Fritsch Elementary School. Mrs. Garey provided an update on the validation study that has taken place at Fritsch Elementary School. Mrs. Garey explained that teachers are most interested in learning how student achievement will be linked with the evaluation.

Mrs. Garey explained that Fritsch Elementary School has had 100% staff participation; 3, 2-hour sessions, with one remaining. Ms. Etchegoyhen and Ms. Gleissner provided the training, which allowed teachers the opportunity to learn about teaching strategies. Mrs. Garey explained that staff has embraced the change and have found that it is not much different from what is currently in place.

Mr. Walker outlined the next steps:

- Meeting with West Ed on April 9, 2014
- Anticipating to know what the 50% might look like; what does it mean for the school

Dr. Delfin thanked Mrs. Susan Keema, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services for allowing time during professional development on Monday, March 10, 2014. Dr. Delfin presented a brief video which he believes relates to the introduction NEPF.

Mrs. Conrad asked if teachers and administrators have a clear understanding of what they will be evaluated on. Mrs. Garey explained that teachers have 4 standards, with 100% evaluation; 50% based on unknowns at this time, 35% instructional; class management, delivery, etc., 15% professionalism. Mrs. Conrad expressed her understanding of the new process; however, she has concerns too. Once organized, Mrs. Conrad inquired about being held harmless and also asked if there will be any consequences. Mrs. Garey explained that it is currently one of the unknowns; what will it look like and how is it equitable? Mrs. Garey noted that 50% of the evaluation that staff is being trained on is similar to the Danielson Model. Mrs. Garey commented on the progress that has been seen by low performing students at Fritsch Elementary School on the Measured Academic Progress (MAP) scores. However, little progress has been seen by students achieving higher MAP scores. Dr. Delfin commented on the amount of data available on the TLC website associated with the Instructional Leadership Standards and Indicators. Dr. Delfin noted that there isn't much of a change from the current practice being used in the district. In addition, Dr. Delfin commented on the unknown of what student data might look like if it is included in anyone's evaluation and the fairness associated with it; how will it be applied and how will it be measured. There is information expected from the DOE on what the data looks like; Criterion Reference Tests (CRT), End of Course Assessments, etc.

Ms. Stowell noted the Star Rating System associated with the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) and inquired if it will integrate into the same framework; 5 star school evaluations will migrate into the same framework, NEPF, which will allow for a fuller picture for each school. To allow for a whole view, Ms. Stowell asked if the NEPF will be incorporated with the NSPF. Dr. Delfin noted the ease of making parallels between both frameworks. Each district has jurisdiction over how to staff schools with the teachers they have in order to move them forward and provide support from the district office, School Board, etc. Dr. Delfin explained that he has not heard of anything at this time that will tie the two systems together. Mr. Stokes noted that the names are similar; however, very different. NEPF is a teacher evaluation system, with the other being a list of formulas and requirements that determine the numerical value associated with the Star Rating system. Mrs. Garey commented on the "other" indicators associated with the Star Rating system.

Mrs. Crossman commented on the privacy associated with teacher evaluations; not public information. Dr. Delfin noted that the Superintendent's evaluation is the only public evaluation. Mrs. Crossman commented on student attendance; parent cannot control when their child is sick. In addition, she questioned how something statewide can measure a school, if attendance is affected. Mrs. Crossman would like to have the attendance of parent/teacher conferences taken into consideration. Dr. Delfin commented on the 50/50 Plan that was discussed at the TLC meeting. The future includes various questions from all stakeholders; families, teachers, association groups, etc.

For clarification purposes, Mr. Reynolds confirmed that the DOE agreed to move to a 50/50 evaluation when they agreed to move from the requirements of No Child Left Behind (NCLB). Dr. Delfin believes the first Race to the Top States helped the initiative gain momentum, as they went with the initial 50/50 model. Mr. Reynolds commented on the number of States that have been experimenting with student achievement being an important part of teacher evaluations. Mr. Reynolds asked if there were any results and information available from other States where this is used. Dr. Delfin explained that States not using the 50/50 Plan seem to be fairer. Mr. Reynolds asked if information from other States has been seen and used during the study period. Dr. Delfin explained that the TLC has looked at other States; taking it slow and implementing in phases. Mr. Reynolds asked if there might be a process in the future where some of the four year universities might affect teacher education. Dr. Delfin noted that the future includes looking at the data, diagnosing it and doing something about it. Dr. Delfin believes those areas are improving in the district; looking at the Strategic Plan, working with administrators and teachers, looking at formative and summative scores for students, etc. One common theme heard is not to do harm to staff because of framework; involve all stakeholders in the process. Dr. Delfin explained that the framework does not cover every teacher in the district; non-tested teachers include music, Speech Pathologists, etc. Dr. Delfin asked the question, "How will it be done fairly?"; whole school scores, individual scores for Math and English teachers, etc. Dr. Delfin commented on various possibilities; lose the best teachers in the process or they decide to obtain endorsements in other areas.

Mr. Swirczek asked for the definition of student achievement. Ms. Etchegoyhen explained that the descriptor is yet to be defined. Mr. Swirczek believes the definition of student achievement should be universal. Ms. Etchegoyhen noted that the three components of student achievement include proficiency, student growth and gap reduction. Until additional decisions are made, Ms. Etchegoyhen can only see information available on the DOE and TLC websites. Ms. Etchegoyhen explained that the challenge is determining the fairness for every teacher, in every subject, in every grade. Dr. Delfin noted the definition as; Students show appropriate expected growth over time in their subjects/content area. Students show proficiency in their subjects and grade level. Mr. Swirczek referenced the perfect score in Math for a student and questioned where they go from there.

Mr. Cacioppo noted his concerns; student growth is limited if they are in a school that is excelling vs. a school that is struggling, but continuing to improve. Mr. Cacioppo believes the same emphasis will be placed on teacher evaluations; growth vs. other factors. Mr. Cacioppo questioned how the district gets new teachers vs. a referenced comment about keeping good teachers. Teachers are rated on various factors, little is in their control. They are being told when, how and what to teach, etc. In addition, they are being told what tools to use to teach. Mrs. Garey explained that the schools at the elementary level are graded on 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students. Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade students are not taken into consideration. Mrs. Garey also commented on how things will be measured when kindergarten students don't know how to read yet. Mrs. Garey explained that the achievement score in Math and Reading at Fritsch Elementary School was 70%, but only received a 3-Star rating.

INFORMATIONAL UPDATE ON THE CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT RACE TO THE TOP GRANT

Item was omitted from the agenda.

INFORMATIONAL UPDATE ON THE NEW GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS (NGSS) RECENTLY ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mrs. Susan Keema, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services provided a power point presentation on the New Generation Science Standards (NGSS). (A copy is included in the permanent record.) Mrs. Keema reported that the State Board of Education adopted the Nevada Content Standards for Science on February 26, 2014. The Content Standards were based on the NGSS. During the meeting, consultants provided the State Board of Education with information on the next steps.

Model timeline:

- Year 1: Standards adopted on February 26, 2014
- Year 2: Districts will work with curriculum and assessment to align to new Standards
- Year 3: Field test; districts are required to implement the Standards by teaching them in the classroom
- Year 4: Standards are aligned to the assessments

Mrs. Keema noted that this process is similar to the one used when Common Core State Standards (CCSS) were introduced in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. For a period of time, teachers are teaching the Standards; however, the assessment hasn't caught up with the Standards being taught.

Mrs. Keema presented information on the high school assessment plan which is based on cohorts:

- Class of 2014 cohort is expected to take the High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) in Math, Writing, Reading and Science
- Class of 2015 and 2016 are expected to take the same HSPE tests; HSPE will no longer exist when the Class of 2016 graduate

Transition to End of Course Exams (EOC):

- Class of 2017 and 2018 will transition to the EOC exams; take the DOE approved ELA writing and reading assessment in 10th grade, as well as Math for Algebra and Geometry. There is no Science during the transition year.
- Class of 2019 will take the same EOC exams, including the proposed Science assessment. The Science EOC has not been approved at this time.

Mrs. Keema presented a colored graph identifying the grade level and school year associated with each cohort and required assessments. Mrs. Keema provided information on the federal reporting requirements; State of Nevada is expected to report ELA and Math for all students every year in grades 3 – 8, as well as one high school grade, which is 11th grade. In addition, the State is expected to report Science scores 3 times; 5th grade for elementary, 8th grade for middle and 11th grade for high school. The report must also include whether it is a graduation requirement or not. Mrs. Keema provided an example of fulfilling the reporting requirement; students recently completed the HSPE. The scores for 10th grade students will be reviewed and those students that did not pass the Science proficiency will take the test again as an 11th grade student. The first two assessment scores will be reported to the federal government.

Mrs. Keema summarized the key points:

- Class of 2017 and 2018 represent transitional classes
- HSPE sunsets and transition to EOC
 - Class of 2016 is the last class required to take and pass HSPE Science to graduate
 - Class of 2019 is the first class required pass the EOC Science to graduate
 - EOC exams will be developed and presented to State Board of Education for approval for graduation
 - Two years during the transition when no data will be reported to the federal government
 - Possible approval of a field test, prior to implementation in 2019

The model timeline applied to the Science EOC for the Class of 2019 includes the following:

- Science Standards adopted in 2013-2014
- Align instruction to Standards in 2014-2015
- Field test year for Science EOC in 2015-2016
- Live administration in 2016-2017; possibility of two years for field testing; 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 before live administration

Mrs. Keema referenced a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) that is introduced each time there are new Standards. A timeline for the district was also presented. There is a District Science Advisory Committee, which met several times regarding the new Science State Standards. The

Committee recently met in elementary, middle and high school teams in preparation of various upcoming EOC and assessment requirements. Mrs. Keema noted that teachers will need to prepare current 10th grade students for the HSPE, as well as prepare current 9th grade students for something else.

Mrs. Keema recognized the District Science Advisory Committee; Ms. Liz Beltrami, 2nd grade teacher, Seeliger Elementary School; Mr. Anthony Brown, Department Chairperson, Pioneer High School; Ms. Amy Burton, Race to the Top Implementation Specialist, Middle School Science; Ms. Nancy Cole, 3rd grade teacher, Empire Elementary School; Ms. Lindsey Evans, 5th grade teacher, Bordewich Bray Elementary School; Mr. Allen Gosselin, Race to the Top Implementation Specialist, Carson High School Science; Ms. Debbie Mariskanish, Interventionist, Fremont Elementary School; Dr. Sue Moulden, Vice Principal, Eagle Valley Middle School; Ms. Amy Robinson, 6th grade teacher and Science Department Chairperson, Carson Middle School; Mrs. Karen Simms, Principal, Bordewich Bray Elementary School; Mr. Scott Vickrey, Science Department Chairperson, Carson High School; Ms. Irene Waltz, Technology Teacher, Fritsch Elementary School; Ms. Chris Whitcome, 7th grade Science Teacher and Department Chairperson, Eagle Valley Middle School and Ms. Shana Wilkins, 4th grade teacher, Mark Twain Elementary School.

Mrs. Keema explained that the Advisory Committee will be putting information in a rollout plan for the District, aligning with the expectations of the State. As referenced on the district timeline, background work will be completed by the elementary schools prior to teaching the new Standards. The middle schools are ahead, as they have been involved with the draft work associated with the NGSS. In addition, they will be able to help elementary teachers with professional development; teachers teaching teachers. The Committee is seeking guidance from the high school.

Mr. Vickrey explained that the high school curriculum is currently focused on end of the year assessments. Mr. Vickrey explained that additional information regarding the subject matter for end of year assessments is still needed. The assumption is that there will be two; Life Science and Physical Science. Once additional information is received, adjustments to the curriculum can be made. Mr. Vickrey expressed a concern at the high school level that the models for NGSS are based on a three year plan, with a two year test; what standards will be left out, expect three years be done in two years, etc.

Mrs. Keema commented on the importance of the District providing input to the Department of Education.

**PRESENTATION BY THE SUPERINTENDENT ON THE “STATE OF THE DISTRICT”;
INFORMATIONAL OVERVIEW FOR THE CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE 2013
CALENDAR YEAR**

Mr. Stokes presented the State of the District for 2013. (A copy is included in the permanent record.) Professionally, Mr. Stokes noted that this has been a challenging and rewarding year. Mr. Stokes commented on the importance of where the district is going, based on input from the community and with the support of the Race to the Top Grant. Mr. Stokes recognized all staff members for their hard work, professionalism and dedication.

Mr. Stokes provided historical data from 2010 to compare with current data. The information was obtained from the budget, accountability report, as well as other various reports. 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:

- Ethnicity; Native American 2.3%, Asian 1.7%, Hispanic 40.8%, Black 0.7%, White 51.2%, Pacific Islander 0.25%, Multi-Race 3.1%

- Special Programs; Individualized Education Plan (IEP) 11.95%, Limited English Proficient (LEP) 16.42%, Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) 54.14%; increased significantly over last year, Migrant 0%

Mr. Cacioppo asked if the district has seen an increase in the FRL population. Mr. Stokes noted that the district was at approximately 46% several years ago. Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch explained that the increase might also be attributed to better record keeping; more families are completing applications. Mr. Stokes noted that through the Race to the Top Grant, staff made extra efforts to have the applications completed and submitted by a specific due date.

- Number of employees in the district:
 - 14 Executive
 - 25 Administrators
 - 478 Certified
 - 333 Classified; 99 12-month employees and 233 10-11 month employees
 - 12 Nurses
 - 861 total employees
- Transiency; measure of how many students come into and leave prior to completion in one of the district schools
 - State 27.4%, District 19.4
- Discipline:
 - Possession of weapons (knives) resulting in suspension; State 481 vs. District 9
 - Violence to other students resulting in suspensions; State 6,623 vs. District 10. During the last several legislative sessions, additional laws passed associated with how a school deals with bullying, harassment, etc.
 - Possession/Use of controlled substances; State 1,980 vs. District 48
- Average Daily Attendance; consistent with State averages
 - State student attendance; 94.4%
 - District student attendance; 94.7%
 - District teacher attendance; does not reflect teacher training days – 94.8%
- Graduation Rate; reflects a downward trend. Discussions on making improvements are taking place. Mr. Stokes stated that the district is not going to allow students to fail. Students that are not going to class are being identified and resources are being used to provide assistance. All necessary steps will be taken to provide assistance necessary to students – Class of 2013
 - State – 70.65% vs. 2010, 70.3%
 - District – 75.87 vs. 2010, 86.9%
- Fiscal Comparisons per Pupil Basic Support; difficult budget year. Governor Sandoval is pro-education, appears things are turning around since 2011 year. The allocation for the coming year is known, based on the 2013 Legislative Session.
 - 2011 District - \$5,957 vs. Difference
 - 2012 District - \$5,566 vs. - 391
 - 2013 District - \$6,231 vs. + 665
 - 2014 District - \$6,537 vs. +306
 - 2015 District - \$6,643 vs. +106

Mr. Stokes reviewed financial information:

- Per Pupil Expenditures
 - Instruction: State 2010 - 59.2%, District - 61.6% vs. State 2013 - 59.4%, District - 59.5%; now close to State average
 - Instruction support: State 2010 - 10.2%, District - 11.7% vs. State 2013 - 10.7%, District - 14.5%; teacher's aide, librarian, counselor, etc.
 - Operations: State 2010 - 21.4%, District - 21.5% vs. State 2013 - 22.3%, District - 20.4%; transportation, custodial, etc. Also had 3 large Bond projects in 2013 that increased the number of square footage.
 - Leadership: State 2010 - 8.6%, District - 5.1% vs. State 2013 - 7.6%, District - 5.7%

Mr. Stokes reviewed the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) school designations for 2010, 2011 and 2012:

- Watch – School falls below acceptable target
- Adequate – Meet benchmark
- High Achieving (HA)
- In Need of Improvement (INI) – number identifies the number of years they have been at that classification. An “H” next the number, means they met the benchmark; however, the benchmark needs to be met twice to get out of that classification.
 - Seeliger Elementary School: 2010-Watch, 2011-Adequate, 2012-Adequate
 - Empire Elementary School: 2010-INI(6), 2011-INI(6H), 2012-Adequate
 - Fritsch Elementary School: 2010-Adequate, 2011-Adequate, 2012-HA
 - Bordewich Bray Elementary School: 2010-HA, 2011-Adequate, 2012-Adequate
 - Fremont Elementary School: 2010-INI(5H), 2011-INI(6), 2012-INI(6H)
 - Mark Twain Elementary School: 2010-INI(2), 2011-INI(2H), 2012-INI(3)
 - Eagle Valley Middle School: 2010-INI(1H), 2011-INI(1), 2012-INI(2)
 - Carson Middle School: 2010-INI(1H), 2011-INI(2), 2012-INI(3)
 - Carson High School: 2010-Watch, 2011-Adequate, 2012-Watch
 - Pioneer High School: 2010-Adequate, 2011-Watch, 2012-INI(1)

Current system is Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) – Star Ranking System:

- Seeliger Elementary School: 2012 – 3, 2013 – 3
- Empire Elementary School: 2012 – 3, 2013 – 2
- Fritsch Elementary School: 2012 – 5, 2013 – 3
- Bordewich Bray Elementary School: 2012 – 3, 2013 – 3
- Fremont Elementary School: 2012 – 3, 2013 – 2
- Mark Twain Elementary School: 2012 – 3, 2013 – 3
- Eagle Valley Middle School: 2012 – 4, 2013 – 3
- Carson Middle School: 2012 – 4, 2013 – 4
- Carson High School: 2012 – 3, 2013 – 3
- Pioneer High School: Not Applicable

Mr. Stokes explained that the district is in the 2nd year of implementation of the District’s Strategic Plan; Empower Carson City 2017. Staff is working hard to accomplish the identified goals and strategies. Mr. Stokes developed a Community Professional Learning Community (PLC) that meet quarterly. The committee consists of school staff and various community members. The next meeting will be held in May, 2014, where a report will be given on their efforts and progress made on implementation during the first year. The Race to the Top Grant has been important in implementing the Strategic Plan. Mr. Stokes noted that there is a limited amount of time to use the funding and believes the model being developed will be very beneficial to the district. Since the inception of the Plan, there have been several accomplishments; extended learning opportunities, show of support by the Carson City Board of Supervisors at a joint meeting with Board Trustees, development of curriculum and assessment, implementation of 1:1 mobile devices, individualized data system for student tracking, Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) planning, etc.

Mr. Stokes provided an update on the 10-year Rollover Bond. The bond was approved in the 2010 General Election, providing the district the ability to build projects by selling school bonds until 2020. Approximately \$26 million has been expended on Phase I projects; Eagle Valley Middle School gymnasium and administration addition, Empire Elementary School classroom wings and remodel, Carson High School wrestling room and Career and Technical Education (CTE) classroom remodel and controlled/single point of entries at nearly all schools. The initial project associated with Phase II was to rebuild the campus at Pioneer High School, removing the portable classrooms from the site. Due to economic conditions, the sale of another bond and the project at Pioneer High School were placed on hold. A School Bond is similar to a house mortgage; various ways to structure and pay off the debt. In an effort to avoid things looking different from the first bond, a decision was made, not to sell another bond.

Following discussions with Mr. Marty Johnson, Bond Advisory, JNA Consulting, the sale of another bond may be considered in May, 2015. Mr. Stokes is hopeful that assessed evaluation in Carson City will continue to increase in the coming year.

Mr. Stokes commented on the various changes and initiatives from the district and State level; NEPF, HSPE end for the Class of 2016, continue work on the Strategic Plan, etc.

Ms. Stowell thanked Mr. Stokes and recognized the change that has taken place since the implementation of the Strategic Plan and the Race to the Top Grant. Mr. Stokes acknowledged district staff for the progress that has been made.

Mrs. Conrad thanked Mr. Stokes for his hard work. Mrs. Conrad commented on tracking students and asked if the middle school students will be tracked too. Mr. Stokes commented on the district's partnership with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada. They hire individuals to go into the schools and help Native American students that might be having difficulties. Mr. Stokes reported that all the Native American students at Eagle Valley Middle School are currently passing all of their classes. Mr. Stokes commented on the importance of making sure all students are successful. There are also resources through the Race to the Top Grant that are providing students with extra assistance. In order to have all students be successful and graduate high school, the time is now; track students having difficulties, provide after school programs and resources, etc.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch commented on different items that are potentially affecting things; current data system, Mandatory after School Study Hall (MASH), freshman transition class at Carson High School, etc.

Mr. Swirczek also commented on the number of changes that have and will continue to take place. In addition, Mr. Swirczek recognized the teachers, administrators, classified staff, Implementation Specialists, etc.; everyone, including community partners are dedicated to student success.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Steve Reynolds, seconded by Mrs. Lynnette Conrad, **that the Carson City School Board of Trustees approve consent agenda items (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (H), (J) and (K) as submitted.** Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch disclosed that she personally has a conflict with Agenda Item A; approval of purchase orders and payables. Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

Mrs. Conrad requested an update on truant students and the program that is addressing this issue.

Mr. Reynolds asked when the high school graduation rate is calculated. Mrs. Keema explained that the information is known following the last HSPE test that is taken in July. Mr. Reynolds requested a presentation on the changes that have taken place at Carson High School; closed campus, additional class, etc.

Present agenda items to Mr. Richard Stokes or President Stacie Wilke-McCulloch.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the Carson City School District Board of Trustees will be on Tuesday, March 25, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

There will be no further business to come before the members of the Board in public meeting; President Wilke-McCulloch declared the meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Joe Cacioppo, Clerk

Date