

# NEVADA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2020

BOARD ROOM AT 1035 15TH STREET

**PRESENT:** BOARD MEMBERS: Tori Carsrud, Joe Anderson, Marty Chitty, Leanne Harter, Tom Maier  
STAFF: Steve Gray, Administrative Team (Kody Asmus, Chris deNeui, Justin Gross, Lisa Hartman, Dustin Smith, Tony Sneiderman, Travis Temple, Joe Wakeman), Chris Burling, Kevin Ericson, Dave Kroese, Bob Mittman, Brian Schaeffer.  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Luke & Stephanie Spence, Kim Stephens, Beth Wagner  
OTHERS: Kiley Wellendorf

**1. Call to Order** at 6:33 p.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda** Motion by Chitty, second by Anderson to approve the agenda for the meeting. Motion Carried 5-0

**3. Public Comment** Kim Stephens spoke to the comments she had made on Public Comment at the last Board meeting.

**4.1 Supt Update: Investigation of Concerns Communicated During February 17 Public Comment**

Dr. Gray presented the District's findings in response to the public concerns raised by Mrs. Stephens at the last Board meeting (February 17). During his 15-minute presentation, Dr. Gray provided the Board with the details of the events which led to each of the concerns mentioned by Mrs. Stephens, the findings of the investigation regarding each of the concerns, and the conclusion reached as a result of each investigation. Dr. Gray finished the presentation by stating: "Based on the information and concerns presented to the Board on February 17, I cannot validate the implication that racism in a widespread or growing problem in Nevada Schools, nor the allegation that students engaging in such activity go without repercussions from the adults around them." Chitty asked Dr. Gray the amount of time the District spent in response to Mrs. Stephens's concerns. Dr. Gray approximated the amount of time spent by District personnel to be 75 hours. Chitty indicated that the concerns resulted in a waste of time and taxpayer dollars. Carsrud thanked Dr. Gray for his research on the public comment/concerns and noted that the Board wants to tackle any potential issues regarding racism. Harter said staff always needs to be alert to things of this nature, and as adults we need to have a civil discourse.

**4.2 DMACC Partnership: Adult Welding Class** For the partnership with Des Moines Area Community College's (DMACC) Adult Welding Class, there will be 7-9 learners which begins on March 23. These classes will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings and Saturday morning. Dr. Gray noted the agreement with DMACC in Board materials. DMACC is being charged the basic rent for the facility of \$45, and will be billed for any consumable materials provided by the District. Background checks have been received on all adult learners that will be on campus for the course. Dr. Gray will provide a summary of the adult welding class following the conclusion of the course.

**4.3 Summer Project: Central Elementary Roof Repair** The portion of the roof which was not part of 2009 renovation at the Elementary School needs repair. This is a project that has to be completed in the summer. Mr. Kroese recommends seeking bids for this in April. This is not a budgeted item and needs to use local option sales tax monies received.

**4.4 Upcoming Dates** March 3 - Revenue Purpose Statement Election  
April 6 - 2020-21 Budget Hearing

**5.1 Audit Report FY 19** Motion by Chitty, second by Anderson to approve the Fiscal Year 2019 District

NEVADA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MARCH 2, 2020 (CONTINUED)

Financial Audit Report. Motion Carried 5-0.

**5.2 NCRC Handbooks 2020-21** Mrs. Burling noted that the changes to the Nevada Community Resource Center (NCRC) handbook are minimal. She said there will be a \$5 increase for rates for the wrap-around daycare program. She said the City has been gracious to the NCRC and the scholarship fund receives the money for eleven children. Key Co-op has also helped the NCRC with a \$2500 grant matched with Land o Lakes. She said these grants help to keep daycare rates affordable. Mrs. Burling also gave a report on NCRC. Chitty said the District appreciates the City’s contribution to NCRC. Motion by Maier to approve the NCRC Handbook, second by Harter. Motion Carried 5-0

**5.3 Purchase of Wrestling Mats** Dr. Gray said he is requesting approval of the purchase of wrestling mats for \$13,820. This payment will be reimbursed by Booster Club and Wrestling Club. Mr. Smith noted that the mats were competition mats and there have been no new mats in nine years. Motion by Anderson, second by Maier to purchase the wrestling mats. Motion Carried 5-0

**5.4 Consider Recommendation of Architectural Firm for MS Renovation** A group of administrators, management and two Board members interviewed four architectural firms for the proposed renovation of the Middle School. Dr. Gray indicated that of the committees top two choices, the presentation rubric scores and costs differences between the two were negligible. The recommendation of the committee is for InVision Architects of Des Moines & Waterloo. After a question about timeline by Chitty, Dr. Gray said the firm presented a thorough timeline presented for the project, and will be invited to share more with the Board at an upcoming meeting. Motion by Anderson, second by Harter to approve InVision as the architectural firm for the proposed Middle School renovation. Motion Carried 5-0

**6. Consent Agenda** Motion by Harter, second by Maier to approve the consent agenda items:

- Board Minutes of the meeting of February 17
- Bills
- Appointments: Jill Gray – Middle School Softball Coach; Vanessa Huber – Assistant Middle School Principal/Athletic Director; Billie Jo Veach – Food Service Director
- Resignations: Deena Davis – Third Grade Teacher, Sarah Gilchrist – Middle School Language Arts Teacher
- Retirement: Greg Baethke – High School Industrial Tech Teacher
- Fundraisers: FFA: meal for North Central FFA District Contest; Drama – button and cookie sales to Puppy Jake Foundation; Middle School Girls’ Track apparel sales; Central Elementary – T-Shirt Sales for tree planting

Motion Carried 5-0.

**7.1 Board Member Comments** Chitty said he was looking forward to meeting the architect and the new administrator. Maier noted many good activity successes in the District. Carsrud said she signed up her two children for Elementary chess – there are 20 kids total participating.

**7.2 Board Calendar** was reviewed. The next regular Board meeting is Monday, April 6, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

**8. Adjournment** at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Board President

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Board Secretary