

**NEVADA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

GATES MEMORIAL HALL AT 825 15TH STREET

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS: Tori Carsrud, Joe Anderson, Marty Chitty, Leanne Harter. **ABSENT:** Tom Maier
STAFF: Steve Gray, Kody Asmus, Dave Kroese, Brian Schaeffer.
COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Ben Humpal-Pash, several others

1. Call to Order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda The Board noted a fundraiser, the list of bills, and minutes from the last meeting to be added to the consent agenda. Motion by Chitty, second by Harter to approve the agenda as amended. Motion Carried 4-0

3. Public Comment There were several oral comments from the audience, both for and against a mask mandate in the District.

4.1 Middle School Renovation Update postponed until next meeting

5.1 Application – Test Iowa Pick-up Site Dr. Gray said he had a parent request for the at-home COVID test which is possible via the District with the Iowa Pick-Up Site program. Several schools have went through the process to join this program. After questioning by Anderson, Dr. Gray said anyone could pick up a test, not just students and families. Carsrud said she had concerns if the program would take away from the staff nurses' time. She said it would be more appropriate to have Story County health or the hospital be the sites for the pick-up test. Dr. Gray said tests are readily available elsewhere. Anderson said he has not heard there is a problem getting testing kits. Dr. Gray said that staff has not had a problem. Carsrud said she is leaning towards not have school as a test site. No Board motion was made, so the District sites will not be test pick-up sites.

5.2 Return to Learn (RTL) Plan Administration was seeking Board direction as to the current RTL plan in lieu of the District Court restraining order of Legislative Law HF 847, the law prohibiting masks in schools. Dr. Gray said the Iowa Department of Education (DE) is mandating school bus masks. He also said that all mitigation plans are still in place with the RTL. Chitty said he comfortable with the plan as it stands with no mask mandate. Carsrud thanked Mr. Wakeman for the website information and said the District needs to keep monitoring the COVID data and continue with the mitigation plan. Student Board member Ben that those who do wear masks in the schools are low. He students would be in favor of having optional masks. Anderson thanked everyone for the messages sent to the Board and for keeping the discourse civil. He said his decision is based on personal messages received and observations: not supporting a mask requirement at this time. Harter thanked everyone for the emails. She said she is a proponent of masks but she doesn't like the inconsistency. She said she will not support mask mandate but it may need to be revisited later. After a question from Chitty on the bus masks, Dr. Gray said he was contacted Friday morning by DE as DE had received a complaint that there was someone not masking on the busses. DE asked for a response for proof of compliance for one compliant. Dr. Gray stated that most districts are not requiring masks on busses. But DE demanded compliance which, Dr. Gray said, needs to be uniform. Dr. Gray said he will contact DE this week further about the issue. The proof of compliance sent to DE was an email sent to all parents which stated masks are required on busses. No Board motion was made, so the District RTL Plan stands as approved earlier.

NEVADA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 (CONTINUED)

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

- Board Minutes of the meeting of August 16
- Bills
- Appointments: Monica Buenrostro – Elementary Associate, Autumn Fleming - Elementary Associate, Abigail Kellogg – Middle School/Gates Hall Custodian; Greg Makenze – CRC Childcare, Ryan Ritson - Elementary Associate, Mercedes Rury – CRC Childcare
- Lane Changes: Kristy Eide, Erin Klopstad
- Resignations: John Bass – Assistant Boys’ Basketball Coach, Carrie Klinge - Elementary Associate
- Fundraisers: Nevada Girls’ Soccer – can donations, Prom – parent donations & concession at craft fair, Elementary – concessions at bingo night
- Approval to purchase Scorer’s Table: cost of \$21,026, all to be reimbursed by Booster Club
- Approval to purchase projector for Tope Auditorium: cost of \$13,894, one-half donated by Alan Erickson
- Approval of Change Order to close out Baseball Facility Project: \$5,000 deduction for grass seeding

Motion Carried 4-0.

7.1 **Board Member Comments** Chitty suggested that the people in the audience tonight should be on the Board. Carsrud said she appreciated the respect shown at the Board meeting tonight. Ben thanked everyone and thanked everyone for their respect. He also reviewed the Homecoming activities for the week. He is a member of the Homecoming King’s court.

7.2 **Board Calendar** was reviewed. The next regular Board meeting is Monday, October 4, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

8. **Adjournment** at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Board President

Board Secretary