

For Immediate Release
Contact David Roddy, (702) 799-5304

Jan. 10, 2019

CCSD Board of School Trustees meeting recap

Trustees enter into agreement to improve college and career readiness

Board Agenda Item 5.01 – Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education and the Clark County School District

The Clark County School District (CCSD) Board of School Trustees voted 6-0 with one abstention (due to a possible conflict of interest) to enter into a new partnership with the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) to collaborate and improve college and career readiness.

The new partnership will focus on strategies to increase dual credit coursework, better prepare students for the jobs needed today, and reduce the need for remedial education. The partnership will focus on:

Increasing dual credit:

- Develop additional dual credit programs for high school students to earn credit toward their K-12 diploma while also earning credit for their postsecondary education
- Address barriers to student participation in dual credit courses and programs, which include location of classes, transportation to classes, and funding of the courses
- Explore dual credit “academies” in high-need areas such as HVAC technicians, manufacturing, IT and cybersecurity, and health care
- Create strategies so that all students have access to dual credit, regardless of socioeconomic background
- Align CCSD International Baccalaureate coursework to NSHE requirements
- Ensure CCSD students who earn a 3 or higher on Advanced Placement exams earn postsecondary credit

Increasing workforce and career preparation:

- Expand Career and Technology Education programs within CCSD that are also recognized for credit at NSHE in high-need areas such as health care and information technology
- Develop additional career counseling and training in “soft skills” such as teamwork and leadership

Decreasing the need for remedial education:

- Identify CCSD students based on their American College Testing (ACT) scores to receive extra support in high school so they do not need remediation in their postsecondary work

Office of the Superintendent – Communications Office – 5100 W. Sahara Ave., Las Vegas NV 89146



- NSHE will assist CCSD with reviewing high school curriculum in math and English to ensure CCSD is preparing students for college-level coursework

NSHE Chancellor Dr. Thom Reilly said he wanted to start this innovative partnership with CCSD as the largest district in the state to have “the area of biggest impact.”

CCSD Trustees praised the work that was done to develop the MOU and looked forward to the positive impacts on education.

Trustee Linda E. Young said, “This is long overdue. This is something that’s time has come.”

This agreement between both parties will be in effect through January 2021. The memorandum of understanding outlining the partnership can be viewed at this [link](#).

Board Agenda Item 5.02 – Council of the Great City Schools Review of Operational Services.

The Board of School Trustees heard a presentation by the Council of the Great City Schools (CGCS) Executive Director Michael Casserly regarding the Council’s review of CCSD’s operational services, which was requested by CCSD Superintendent Dr. Jesus F. Jara. The review included recommendations on how to improve the district’s operational services.

This report gives CCSD a road map to transform the business operations division in order to improve services to our schools, increase efficiencies in operations, and drive instructional dollars to the classroom, where they are needed the most.

“This problem has been developing for years, but now I own it,” said Jara.

“I feel a sense of urgency to prioritize and implement these finding with hopes of re-allocating funds to the classroom,” Jara said. “It’s also important to note that the review found CCSD’s per-student expenditure of \$8,964 is the lowest of all 74 of the urban school districts in the Council of the Great City Schools. It is our job to build trust with the public by being clear on the accomplishments we will deliver with additional investments from our community.”

Casserly said the CGCS has done more than 300 reviews of districts around the nation during the past 20 years. He noted that CCSD is one of the lowest-funded districts of all of the 74 urban school districts in the Council.

Jara said he would take immediate action to start implementing the recommendations in the report, which can be viewed at this [link](#).

Board Agenda Item 5.03 – Transfer of Responsibilities.

The Board of School Trustees had a lengthy discussion regarding the Transfer of Responsibilities in seven areas currently offered by central services.

Office of the Superintendent – Communications Office – 5100 W. Sahara Ave., Las Vegas NV 89146



Many of the trustees expressed a variety of concerns about schools purchasing services from outside providers rather than from CCSD. By a 7-0 vote, the Trustees voted to transfer funding from central services to school strategic budgets for high school credit recovery, the Moapa Valley farm, field trips for Prime 6 schools, and English Language Learner Student Success Advocates. Trustees did not transfer responsibilities in three other areas.

The Service Level Agreements are part of the joint implementation plan to comply with Assembly Bill 469, passed in the 2017 Nevada Legislative Session.

To view the document related to this item, visit this [link](#).

#

