

**Douglas County School District
Board of Trustees Meeting
Lake Tahoe Visitor's Authority-Visitor Center
Tuesday, April 10, 2018
4:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Present:

Trustees:

Thomas Moore, President
Robbe Lehmann, Vice President
Keith Byer, Board Member
Karen Chessell, Board Member
Carey Kangas, Board Member
Linda Gilkerson, Board Member

Absent:

Ross Chichester, Board Clerk

Present:

Personnel:

Teri White, Superintendent
Keith Lewis, Executive Director Human Resources
Jacque Matteoni, Executive Director Area 1
Brian Frazier, Executive Director Area 2
Rommy Cronin-Mack, Executive Director Area 3
Brandon Swain, Executive Director Area 4
Susan Estes, Director Business Services
Melissa Rains, Assistant Director Special Services, Area 1

Others Present:

Rick Hsu, Legal Counsel

**1. Call to Order
(For Possible Action)**

Mr. Moore called the meeting to order at 4:01p.m. Sonnet Van Doren and Olivia Cranch from ZCES led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Moore called for approval of Agenda.

Motion made by Mrs. Chessell to adopt the agenda, and pulled item #15, "Distribution of Materials through District Forums", seconded by Mr. Kangas.

Mr. Moore called for public comment. There was none.

Motion carried, 6/0

2. Consent Items (For Possible Action)

Motion made by Mrs. Chessell to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Byer.

Motion carried, 6/0.

- A. Approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 13, 2018.
- B. Approve Special Run Voucher Numbers 1857, 1858, 1859, 1860, 1861; and Regular Run Voucher Numbers 1862 and 1863.
- C. Approve Personnel Report No. 18-04.
- D. Approve Budget Vouchers as recommended by the Director of Business Services for April 2018.
- E. Approve Copier Contract as presented.
- F. Approve the Amendment to the Second Employment Agreement between the Superintendent and DCSD as presented.
- G. Approve the Monthly Update Enrollment Counts.

3. Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB) Report (Information and Discussion)

Mrs. Chessell reminded the Board that on April 20th and 21st there is a 24 hour training on school safety, in Carson City.

Mrs. Chessell reported that awards nominations forms for NASB State Conference will be out in May and due in August for employees and School Board Members.

Mrs. Chessell stated that Mr. Lehmann and Mrs. Gilkerson attended the National School Boards Association Conference in Texas and asked for their feedback.

Mrs. Gilkerson shared that the National School Board Association, during the closing session, they spoke regarding three areas that they would like to advocate for this year. These subjects included, equity and equality for transgender and safety of transgender students. The second item was school safety and advocating for teachers not carrying guns in school. The third item was mental health and advocating psychologists, social workers, and school resource officers present in the schools.

Mr. Lehmann gave feedback on his attendance at the National School Boards Association Conference. He stated that some of the presentations were focused more towards administration level decisions and said that he will be sending out a document summarizing the conference.

4. Board Reports (Information and Discussion)

Mr. Kangas reported that he attended NJHS induction at Carson Valley Middle School and stated that it was very nice to see a lot of great kids doing very well. He also attended the DPAC meeting on April 9th and said it was a great group of parents and good communication. Mr. Kangas also attended the Planning Commission Meeting.

Mrs. Gilkerson reported that she attended Literacy Night at Scarselli Elementary and it was nice. She stated that there were quite a few families in attendance and they did a great job. The money raised will go towards scholarships for students when they graduate.

5. Correspondence

The Board members received a letter regarding a Human Resources issue, and noted that the school is handling the matter. They also received a letter regarding the sale of Kingsbury Middle School.

Mrs. Gilkerson also sent a note to the Board to thank them for sending her to the NASB Conference in San Antonio, Texas.

6. Superintendent's Report (Administrative Report)

Mrs. White, Superintendent, updated the Board about school safety. She stated that each principal has submitted a list of things they would like addressed immediately and most are being worked on. The list included things like fixing gates, repairing holes in fences and assuring the speakers for PA systems are fully functioning. Mr. Cullen is working to get bids for keyless entry systems. Mrs. White stated that the Guaranteed Maximum Price recommendation for the District-Wide Improvement Project would be reported later in the evening and the work calls for completion of single-point entry at both Lake schools.

Mrs. White recognized several organizations that have donated to the District and commented that we are very fortunate to have such generous community members. The following are the donors that Mrs. White recognized:

After the Board approved the \$122,281 additional funds needed to complete the George Whittell High School project, Mrs. Maloff donated the amount needed for the project saying that she did not want other District funds negatively impacted.

Barnes and Noble donated books and over 1600 books to Jack's Valley Elementary and C.C. Meneley Elementary and each school also received an additional \$3K from City National Bank to purchase more books for students from City National Bank.

The Me Fi Yi Crab Feed event donated \$800 to C.C. Meneley Elementary for the new backstop project.

The Carson Valley Crystal Angels donated \$2000 for student recognition and support to ASPIRE Academy. Carson Valley Kiwanis Club donated \$3K for recognition sweatshirts for the ASPIRE students.

The 20/30 Club of Carson Valley, Chapter 85 donated \$750 to Gardnerville Elementary for their environmental field trip with the Marine Research Foundation and Great Basin Outdoor School.

Mrs. White stated that the Cabinet and School Resource Officers attended a Pool/Pact safety training on March 19th centered on school safety, concerns related to Superintendent and Cabinet level administrators. There was not a lot of new information, or practices that the District doesn't already have in place, but it was a good time to get together with colleagues to discuss school safety.

Mrs. White reported that the Board of Commissioner's funded a third School Resource Officer and Mrs. White has committed to sending both of the new officers to Resource Officer Training this summer in Washington.

Chris Reilley from Tesla spoke at a Superintendent Meeting about the Manufacturing Development Program and they offered it last year to other Southern Nevada counties. Tesla has expanded it this year and added sixty Northern Nevada slots. Mr. Swain will be coordinating with Tesla so that our students can participate in internships that will include pay, opportunities for benefits and for schooling and housing in the future should the students go into the engineering program.

Mr. Swain has been working through the Next Generation Science Standards to help teachers think differently about how they teach science with a program called Project Recharge, where the District partners with UNLV to encourage students to take a look at situations or problems around their school or community. Students then come up with a solution, and sell the solution to the non-profit who then works with the Governor's office to get that project in place. Students at Pau-Was-Lu Middle School researched an LED light retrofit, which could save the District as much as \$8,000-\$10,000 a year. Mrs. White stated that the District is currently looking for contractors to do the installation. The project will be sent to the Governor and will move forward if approved.

Mr. Moore expressed his gratitude for all of the generous donations made by all of the organizations.

Mr. Moore and Mrs. Gilkerson requested that the Board receive a monthly list of donations and who provides them, so that they can acknowledge them.

Mr. Byer inquired about the number of counselors providing mental health care in the schools in relation to school safety and asked if there was sufficient coverage. Mrs. White clarified that the school counselors are trained in guidance counseling and not clinically licensed to provide mental health counseling. Mrs. White stated that this was an issue that was discussed with the Governor and that there is need for more mental health care providers within the schools.

Mr. Moore stated for the record that school safety was discussed in the previous Board meeting, specifically item number 13, and that this is an issue is being addressed.

7. Resolution 18-01 Regarding the Sale of Kingsbury Middle School (Discussion and For Possible Action)

Mrs. White explained that the buyer of the KMS property, Pioneer Mountain, LLC, completed due diligence on the property within the designated period contained in the purchase and sale agreement. That due diligence revealed various defects and damage to the building including water damage and the presence of mold. The buyer has requested that the Board either remediate and repair the defects or reduce the Purchase Price of the property to contribute to the remediation and repair costs. The insurance company has a concern as to when the mold started. Adjusters continue to assess the damage. Superintendent requested an extension of the due diligence period through April 17, 2018, so that the District could have its insurance company ascertain the next best steps for the District. Mrs. White is requesting authorization to work with the attorneys to modify the Sales Agreement.

Mr. Moore asked if there were questions or comments from the Board.

Mr. Byer expressed his concerns that the property was to be sold "as is" and that the property should not be renegotiated. He would like to see the property placed back on the market or have the buyer purchase the property "as is" with no changes to the contract due to the damages being looked into.

Mr. Lehmann agreed.

Mr. Hsu, Legal Counsel, provided an explanation regarding the contract language and stated that the "as is" clause gives the buyer the choice as to whether they want to move forward. The buyer would also be entitled to any insurance proceeds under the District's policies. There may or may not be insurance monies. If the Board were to approve the Resolution, any insurance monies would go to the District. Mr. Hsu continued to state that it is a policy issue for the Board to consider whether to accept an offer that is still above the appraised price and the other bids, or to wait until the 17th of April to see if the property closes or falls out of escrow.

Mr. Moore stated that even if we move forward with the recommendation that it would still be at an acceptable price. He suggested moving forward to see what comes of this.

Mr. Hsu stated that if the property closes after the extension, that the property will still be sold "as is". It is not a term that modifies that language.

After a summary of the sale process, Mr. Byer restated that he thinks there is other interest in the property and "as is" is "as is" regardless of whether there is mold or not.

The Board reviewed the appraisal numbers and the offers that have been presented to date. Discussion continued.

Mr. Hsu stated that he Board may authorize the Superintendent to not go below \$3,525,000 as she works with the buyer.

Mr. Lehmann stated that he agreed with a lot of what Mr. Byer has proposed. Mr. Lehmann asked about the legality of adopting this resolution as it relates to the validity of the process.

Mr. Hsu said that it should not raise an issue and continued to inform the Board that it has the right to modify the Purchase and Sales Agreement.

Mr. Moore expressed that it is in the best interest of the Board to consider a resolution in comparison to putting the property back on the market.

Mr. Moore called for public comment.

Michael Patrick Taylor, managing member of Lakeview Parkway LLC stated, "The buyers due diligence must have been satisfied or waived by the buyer on or before March 26, 2018, paragraph 4.2 unless extended by written agreement of buyer and Board if not by March 26, 2018. The agreement is cancelled. Paragraph 5.1, page number 8, note agreement by the Board prior to March 27, the agreement is cancelled. You don't have an agreement anymore. It is gone." He suggested that the Board needs to put the property back on the market in order to get more money and to sell the property as is.

Mr. Moore brought item back to the Board for further discussion.

Mrs. White stated that the Due Diligence period was extended in order for the District to involve the insurance company and further investigate the property.

Motion made by Mrs. Gilkerson that the Board adopt Resolution 18-01, authorizing the Superintendent to execute an amendment to the Purchase and Sale Agreement of at least \$3,525,000, seconded by Mr. Kangas.

Motion carried, 4-2.

**8. District Wide Construction Manager At Risk (CMAR Project
Guarantee Maximum Price
(Discussion and For Possible Action)**

Superintendent White invited Mr. Cullen and Mr. McCullough, who have met with her prior, to go over the District Wide Improvement Project.

Mr. McCullough reported that the project is ideal for the CMAR process and will enable CORE to meet the tier one portion of proposed projects successfully.

Mr. Moore supports the CMAR tool and stated that it is quality work and fairly priced.

Mr. Kangas stated that he has seen the results of the project and is very pleased.

Mr. Moore called for public comment. There was none.

Motion made by Mr. Lehmann for the approval of the District Wide CMAR Project and the GMP of \$2,982,365.00 with the remaining \$17,365 of the budgeted amount being allocated to owner contingency, seconded by Mrs. Chessell.

Motion carried, 6-0

**9. Review and Update of the District's Five-Year
Capital Improvement Plan for 2018-2019
(Discussion and For Possible Action)**

Mrs. Sue Estes came forward to review with the Board a modified five-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) as required by Nevada Revised Statutes.

Included in each Board Member's agenda packet is the aforementioned revised Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan along with an all-inclusive list of unfunded capital needs as provided to the SB411 Committee.

Mr. Moore called for public comment. There was none.

Motion made by Mr. Byer to approve updated FY2018-2019 Five Year Capital Improvement Plan as recommended, seconded by Mr. Lehmann.

Motion carried, 6-0

**10. Consideration of 2018-2019 Tentative Budget and Scheduling of
Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 22, 2018
(Discussion and For Possible Action)**

Mrs. Estes reported on the information included in each Board Member's agenda packet which included a copy of the District's proposed 2018-2019 tentative budget. NRS 354.596 requires that all

school districts approve and file a balanced tentative budget with the Nevada Department of Taxation by April 15. The statute further requires that the District hold a hearing on their tentative budget not sooner than the third Monday in May and not later than that last day of May.

Included in each Board Member's agenda packet is a summary of the General Fund appropriations as well as the projected budgets for all other funds.

The projected budget is balanced. It is expected that any revisions to the April Tentative Budget in terms of projected revenues or expenditures will be made and reviewed at the May 22nd public hearing.

Mr. Kangas brought what was believed to be an error to the attention of the Board on page 5 regarding the debt service fund. (Mrs. Estes clarified later in the meeting that one number was the ending fund and the other was expenditures.)

Mrs. Estes pointed out that several of the items included on proposed budget include helping with safety issues.

Mr. Moore called for public comment. There was none.

Motion made by Mr. Kangas to approve the FY2018-2019 Douglas County School District Tentative Budget and declare a public hearing on the budget for Tuesday, May 22, 2018, at 5 p.m. at the Airport Training Center (ATC), 1126 Airport Road, Building G1, Minden, Nevada 89423 with the exception that the debt fund be fixed, seconded by Mrs. Gilkerson.

Motion carried, 6-0

11. First Reading Board Policy No. 518, Graduation Requirements” (Discussion and For Possible Action)

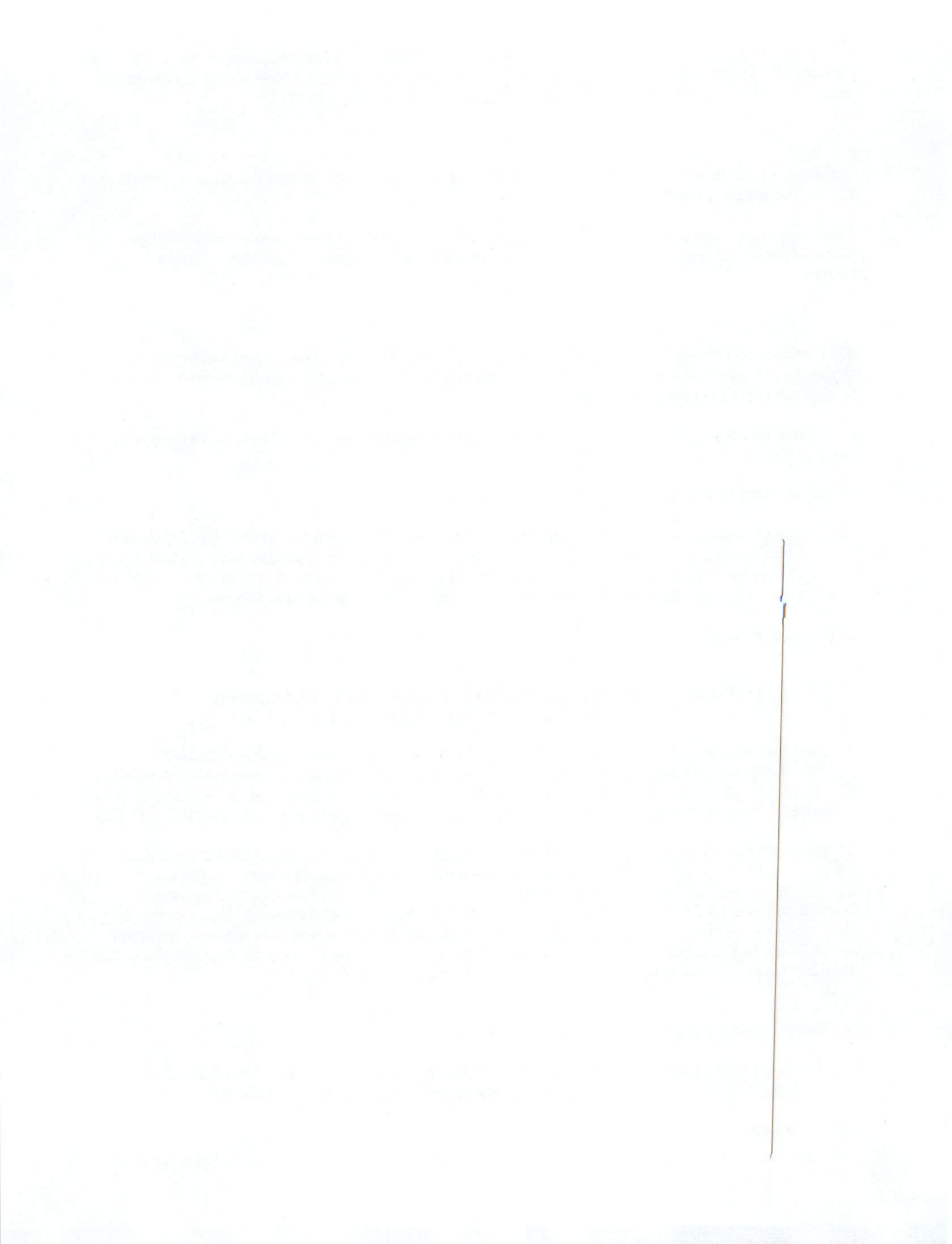
An error has been found in BP 518 with regard to Supervised Curriculum Physical Education (SCPE). NRS 389.488 states that PE credit for graduation may be waived by successful completion of a SCPE program. BP 518 states that PE credit for successfully completing an SCPE program may be earned. The appropriate revisions to the BP 518 have been made to align with the NRS 389.488.

Mr. Swain, Executive Director Area 4, presented changes to Douglas County School District Board Policy No. 518, "Graduation Requirements," which states that students may earn a maximum of 1 high school P.E. credit in grades 9-12. In reviewing the process for students to apply for Supervised Curriculum Physical Education, it was determined that the NAC 389.488 allows students to be exempted from a PE credit if they are enrolled in a comparable course and obtain written approval. Board Policy 518 allows for a PE credit to be earned for a Supervised Curriculum Physical Education (SCPE) course. The changes in Board Policy 518 will align with NAC 389.488.

Mr. Moore called for public comment. There was none.

Motion made by Mr. Lehmann to approve the changes as recommended to First Reading Board Policy No. 518, "Graduation Requirements," seconded by Mrs. Gilkerson.

Motion carried, 6-0



Item Number 10 was revisited out of order due to clarification in the Debt Service Fund.

**10. Consideration of 2018-2019 Tentative Budget and Scheduling of
Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 22, 2018
(Discussion and For Possible Action)**

Mrs. Estes clarified that the debt fund was not incorrect on the report as pointed out previously.

Motion made by Mr. Kangas to reconsider Number 10 and revote.

Mr. Moore called for public comment. There was none.

Mr. Kangas motioned that the Board approve the FY2018-2019 Douglas County School District Tentative Budget and declare a public hearing on the budget for Tuesday, May 22, 2018, at 5 p.m. at the Airport Training Center (ATC), 1126 Airport Road, Building G-1, Minden, Nevada 89423 as is seconded by Mr. Gilkerson.

Motion carried, 6-0

Item take out of order.

**14. Future Board Agenda Item-Discussion of Standardized Test Administration
(Discussion Only)**

This item was brought forward by Trustee Byer and Trustee Lehmann for discussion.

Superintendent White commented that the State requires administration of State approved assessments in grades 3-12. Schools are held accountable for the participation of State testing and it is one of the ratings on the NEPF star rating criteria, so school performance is rated by the number of students who take the tests. Some assessments are very high stakes and measure student movement from one grade level to the next. Some tests are included in graduation requirements.

Mrs. White stated that regulations and related laws require each district to administer the approved assessments and report the results annually on the Nevada Reportcard site. The State does not outline a policy for students to opt out of assessments and leaves that decision to individual districts. Douglas County School District Board Policy No. 222, "Assessment of Student Progress", requires schools to administer all state mandated tests.

Mrs. White explained that the current practice, should a parent request to have their child not participate in the test, is the District requires the request in writing from the parent. Upon receipt of the request by a parent to have their child opt out of testing, the District sends a letter acknowledging the request made by the parent and instructed that if the child is in attendance on the day of testing, to offer the child the assessment. Should the child decline the assessment, the administrator is instructed to permit the child to do so. If the child is not in school on the day(s) of testing, the child is not required to participate in any make-up testing.

Mr. Moore called for questions or comments from the Board.

Mrs. Gilkerson inquired as to which tests are required by the State.

Mrs. White explained SBAC, End of Course assessments, ACT exam, the new Computer Science Assessment, WIDA and MAPS. The 5th grade Computer Science and the ACT would hold students back from moving to the next grade level. The End of Course assessment could affect the student's class grade as it equates to a final exam.

Mr. Byer explained that there are parent concerns specifically regarding SBAC as to where the data goes and to which entities have access to it. Mr. Byer believes that the parents should have control over whether or not the student should participate in the test. Mr. Byer stated that the language in the current letter does not reflect the practice in place.

Mrs. Gilkerson asked for clarification on specific tests and why parents would want the students to opt out.

Mr. Byer stated that there are significant concerns by parents that the data going to the Federal government is also being shared with other entities and they are not sure what they are doing with that information. There are questions about confidentiality. Mr. Byer would like to give parents the rights to opt out.

Mrs. Chessel acknowledged the concern but stated that the FERPA laws protect student information.

Mr. Frazier, Executive Director of Area stated that the data from the testing, not just the participation, is useful in order to provide feedback for public education.

Mr. Byer stated that we are making it inconvenient for parents, but not letting the parents have the input as to whether they can opt out of the testing.

Mr. Moore asked if there were more comments or questions from the Board. There were none.

Mr. Moore recommended that if Mr. Byer would like to pursue this topic further it could be added as a future agenda item.

15. Distribution of Material through District Forums (Discussion Only)

Item #15 Removed

Item taken out of order.

16. Prioritizing Agenda-Possible Items for Future Board Meetings (Discussion and For Possible Action)

The Board will seek requests from its members for items to be placed on future meeting agendas in accordance with its policies. The Board will discuss all agenda items on the list and prioritize those it wishes to come forward at the next Board Meeting.

Mr. Moore asked the Board if there were any requests to add agenda items for future Board meetings.

Mr. Byer requested that the Board to consider revisiting the topic giving parents the option to allow their child to opt out of testing and would like the topic included as a future agenda item.

Mr. Lehmann agreed that it is a topic that should be revisited.

Mr. Lehmann requested that the Board have a review of Roberts Rules of Order for Board Meetings and stated that it would be beneficial for the Board to have a refresher. Mr. Byer suggested making this a standing item in January to go over with new Board Members.

Mr. Moore announced that Michele Curtis, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees would be retiring at the end of the month. He recognized all of her hard work and dedication to Douglas County School district and wished her well with her retirement.

Superintendent White acknowledged the invaluable support in the Superintendent's office that Mrs. Curtis has provided. Mrs. White thanked Mrs. Curtis for all of her hard work.

Mr. Lewis, Director of Human Resources, also thanked Mrs. Curtis and recognized her for all of the help she has provided to him personally over the years. Mr. Lewis thanked her for the positive impact that she has made within her several positions at the School District during her career.

At 5:23 p.m., Mr. Kangas moved to recess

13. Closed Session

No closed session needed.

Item taken out of order.

12. Public Comment

Mr. Moore called for public comment at 5:30 p.m.

Virginia Starrett, Director of Protect Nevada Children, thanked the School Board and Mr. Byer specifically for placing the SBAC discussion on the agenda. Ms. Starrett introduced herself and read from a statement explaining that she is an opponent of Common Core, specifically in her opinion the data mining of SBAC testing data. She voiced her concerns regarding the District's "Opt Out" policies regarding State administered tests. She explained her reasoning for her concerns. In closing, Ms. Starrett would like the District to disconnect from SBAC testing altogether, but absent the possibility of that, she would like the District to allow parents who don't want their children tested to opt out of the tests.

Erica Darke, a parent of a Zephyr Cove Elementary student, stated that she was representing a group of parents, who also have students at the school, that feel they can be the working group in response to the epidemic of violence on the school grounds of America. The parents have met as a group and also worked individually on creating a list of items that they would like to be addressed at Zephyr Cove Elementary in regards to safety concerns and any possible solutions. She provided documentation regarding the requests which included the following: School Safety Assessment, Single Point of Entry, Fencing Around the School, Temporary Restricted Entry, Safety Protocol and Drills, Locked Classroom Doors, the Addition of a Full Time Counselor and Front Desk Position, Alarm Monitoring System, Metal Detector and Security Patrol. Mrs. Darke explained that the group would be happy to invest in the school's safety and asked for a commitment from the school District to use funds from the sale of Kingsbury Middle School to help with the budget to secure the school. She would like a written response from the Board and would like to hold a forum with a Board member present at the school.

Mr. Moore thanked Mrs. Darke and explained that the Board is not in a position where they can respond to Public Comment.

Superintendent White introduced and welcomed Caryn Harper as her new assistant, who will be replacing Michele Curtis's position as the Secretary to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees.

Item taken out of order.

18. Adjournment

Mr. Lehmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:38 p.m., seconded by Mr. Byer.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Submitted by,


Caryn Harper
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Approved:


Clerk of the Board

Note: Upon approval by the Board of Trustees in a public meeting, these minutes become the official minutes of the meeting held on the above date. Board minutes are kept on a permanent basis and are available for public review in the office of the Superintendent.