

WCCUSD Governance Subcommittee

Alvarado Adult Education Campus

January 16, 2020

Minutes

I. Opening Procedures

A. Roll Call and Introductions

Chairperson Stephanie Hernández-Jarvis called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

Committee Members Present: Stephanie Hernández-Jarvis, Tom Panas

Staff Attendees: Matthew Duffy, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Marcus Walton, Communications Director

Chairperson Hernández-Jarvis provided opportunity for those in the audience to introduce themselves.

B. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Panas moved approval of the agenda and Chairperson Hernández-Jarvis accepted the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

C. Approval of Minutes November 21, 2019

Mr. Panas moved approval of the Minutes of November 21, 2019. Chairperson Hernández-Jarvis seconded. Motion carried.

D. Public Comment

None

II. Discussion Items

A. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Policy

Superintendent Duffy provided background and spoke about a focus to prioritize work for staff or student population in order to start momentum and see progress for change.

Public Comment:

None

Discussion:

Mr. Panas provided a policy sample from Corona-Norco Unified School District for consideration. He spoke about kinds of diversity and equity, and making people feel valued. He spoke about not seeing a sense of equity when visiting district classrooms, remarking about classroom décor incorporating images of diversity.

Chairperson Hernández-Jarvis talked about how campuses feel, a visual perception for those visiting, and students envisioning themselves in their fullest potential.

Discussion touched on systems and how to affect change, with an example of special needs students mainstreamed to regular education classrooms making change work. A small working group committee might best pursue language or areas of focus.

The next steps will include Mr. Panas contacting the Corona-Norco School District to inquire about contacts and provide that information to Superintendent Duffy.

B. School District Elections – Immigrant Members of the Community Voting

Public Comment:

None

Discussion:

Mr. Panas shared his research about school district elections including immigrant community members. He said a few cities in Maryland, Massachusetts, Chicago and San Francisco had passed ordinances. Mr. Panas shared some of the questions he had and said that he had also spoken with some attorneys interested in doing additional research. He said it would be important to alert families that the district may be compelled to share certain information with state or federal government. Mr. Panas' questions included cooperation by the county elections office, cost, and inclusivity of language translation. What procedural roadblocks might arise?

Mr. Walton pointed out that a low percentage of non-citizen voters had participated in elections. He said that LAUSD was also looking into this matter. He said he spoke with the County Registrar's Office who thought that the Supervisors would need to consider the matter and give some direction. Mr. Walton also shared that in San Francisco, the risk that personal information might be shared with the federal government may have chilled voter desire to participate.

Chairperson Hernández-Jarvis asked if this might be something to look into for the future, suggesting moving forward slowly. Mr. Panas agreed that it would be of value to pursue.

Superintendent Duffy said he would want the full Board to share pros and cons, as well as determine whether there was interest. He suggested the Governance Committee look into community input and messaging.

Chairperson Hernández-Jarvis recommended this item returning for further discussion.

IV. Governance Committee Next Meeting

Public Comment:

Regarding possible conflict with the upcoming CBOC Joint Meeting, Don Gosney spoke about presentation and approval of the audit reports before the end of March. He would need to verify that auditors would be prepared by March 25. He said it was required that the full audit report be submitted by March 30.

Discussion:

Discussion took place about frequency of meetings and various topics to return to the committee for follow-up. Superintendent Duffy talked about the substantial workload currently upon staff and consideration about whether to hold upcoming committee meetings. Chairperson Hernández-Jarvis supported continued discussion of cell phone policy at school sites. Mr. Duffy said the current focus for staff, as well as the Solutions Team, was on budget, and provided his perspective regarding flexibility on cell phone policy by school administrators. Ms. Hernández-Jarvis said she found it beneficial to continue monthly meetings.

The following dates were affirmed for the Governance Committee meetings.

Thursday, February 6, 2020
Monday, March 23, 2020

Separately, Mr. Gosney brought up the topic of upcoming trustee area elections and potential criteria to define candidate residence. He said the City of Richmond had discovered that this might be a challenge for its upcoming council elections.

V. Adjournment

Chairperson Hernández-Jarvis adjourned the meeting at 7:28 PM.