

WCCUSD Governance Subcommittee

Alvarado Adult Education Campus

April 18, 2017

Minutes

Approved May 17, 2017

I. Opening Procedures

A. Roll Call and Introductions

Chairperson Valerie Cuevas called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

Committee Members Present: Valerie Cuevas, Tom Panas

Staff Attendees: Matthew Duffy Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary

B. Approval of Agenda

The meeting agenda was approved by consensus.

C. Approval of Meeting Minutes – March 2, 2017

The Minutes from the March 2, 2017 meeting were approved by consensus.

D. Public Comment

Kathy Fleming shared thoughts about committees and structure of composition to increase interest of new parents.

Mariela Cuellar spoke about School Site Councils (SSCs) in traditional schools, charter schools and parent input. She expressed interest in learning more.

II. Discussion Items

A. Vincente, Lloyd & Stutzman TC4 findings for Governance Handbook & Board Policy

Chairperson Cuevas provided background and drew attention to the VLS fiscal audit's risk assessment matrix and Test Control (TC) recommendations.

Public Comment:

Gregg Visineau had comments regarding governance and conflict of interest. He distributed a handout with his opinion and recommendations for the various TC4 items under discussion.

Fatima Alleyne addressed the committee about the importance of having policies in place that represent the spirit of the law.

Committee Discussion:

Mr. Panas provided a review of the information and recommended test controls to provide parameters for Board member behavior to prevent future conflict of interest occurrences.

Chairperson Cuevas continued to speak about incorporating the TC4 items with updates to the Governance Handbook and district policies for every committee. She particularly focused on TC4-1 regarding Board members performance of management functions. Discussion took place regarding how a new Board Member would learn to perform their role, and expectations of holding the Superintendent responsible for outcomes, not individual staff members.

Superintendent Duffy said the difference is that governance is about setting policy and direction for the district while management is about the implementation. He suggested that examples might be

helpful to be clear in communication and for staff to understand to whom they report. Discussion also touched on visits to school site or district offices needing to be in a governance capacity.

Ms. Cuevas and Mr. Panas were in agreement about avoiding any real or perceived conflict of interest through high standards. Discussion continued about contacting Cabinet members to answer questions, gathering as much information as possible in preparation for meetings, and intent and purpose.

Chairperson Cuevas and the Superintendent agreed that the next step would include reconciliation between the handbook and policies regarding these recommendations.

B. School Site Committees Structure, bylaws, and protocols

Chairperson Cuevas began the discussion of School Site Councils by sharing the importance of LCAP goals and providing more funding to school sites as well as more broadly assuring consistent functioning across the district. Mr. Panas spoke about the varying roles across the district, voting, membership and importance of reflecting district values.

Public Comment:

Fatima Alleyne shared thoughts about school site consistency with the goals of LCAP.

Petronila Fernandes spoke about the composition of various groups such as the MDAC and ELAC, and lack of parent participation. She asked for a method to include parents to support educators and English learners at school sites.

Scottie Smith provided an historical perspective and suggested a rubric for measuring the effectiveness of SSC as well as training for parents and staff regarding roles and responsibilities.

Alex Beltran urged more training opportunities for parents, teachers and the community.

Petronila Fernandez advocated for accountability for SSC's.

Committee Discussion:

Chairperson Cuevas talked about the compliance component for Title I and mandated federal and state compliance requirements. She heard from the community the desire to strengthen and utilize resources to meet needs, and an information process to better inform the community on how SSC and LCAP mesh. She and Mr. Panas agreed on the importance for training to assist parents learn about legal mandates regarding budgeting and SSC structure.

Superintendent Duffy shared information about changing the timeline for Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) deadlines to insure the best chance of spending funds appropriately.

Demetrio Gonzalez shared his perspective about advocating for training for certificated staff and spoke about teachers appointed rather than elected to SSCs.

C. AB 420 (school discipline) and Board Policy – Presentation by Lily Chen, Public Counsel

Presenters Lily Chen, Demetrio Gonzalez and Stephanie Medley provided a look at current school discipline in relation to the state, and a proposal for further consideration regarding the elimination of willful defiance suspension as policy for the district.

Public Comment:

Fatima Alleyne spoke as a member of the Black Board community organization supporting collaboration and consideration to provide support alternatives to be in place while focusing on children.

Scottie Smith recommended researching data to determine the numbers of children affected and providing intervention methods before excluding a child from the classroom.

Mariela Cuellar, Mike Peritz, Kathy Fleming, Jacob Gran, and Petronila Fernandes all provided additional perspective.

Committee Discussion:

Chairperson Cuevas continued the discussion to include training, positive supports, approach, time line and due diligence for best implementation. The presenters concurred with the need to discuss site-specific needs, approaches used by other school districts, engaging stakeholders, and training.

Superintendent Duffy was in agreement with the committee that next steps would include reviewing data and looking at various roles of authority figures on campuses, as well as training. Strengthening of each school's culture is important.

III. Action Items

A. Subcommittee Recommendation to Board on Board Committee and Subcommittee Structure and Authority (BB 9130)

Superintendent Duffy reviewed the emphasis on high-level policy work for the five board subcommittees. Frequency of meetings was discussed. Other committees work as management level spaces.

Public Comment:

Anton Jungherr recommended subcommittees meet at the call of the chairperson, to be as frequent as needed for individual committee groups. He recommended memorializing the five subcommittees in board policy and advocated for the use on the Agenda Online system for subcommittees.

Alex Beltran spoke about restructuring the Safety and School Climate committee to incorporate more parent involvement at a policy level.

Committee Discussion:

Discussion took place regarding the structure of organization of committees and meeting frequency.

Superintendent Duffy will incorporate the recommended changes and bring to the Board for action and changes to be incorporated for the 2017-2018 year.

MOTION: Mr. Panas moved approval of the appropriate adjustments to the committee descriptions and forwarding to the Board. Ms. Cuevas seconded. Motion approved.

B. Subcommittee Recommendations to Board on Reconciliation of Governance Handbook and Board Policy (BB 9000, 9005, 9100, 9212, 9123, 9140, 9150, 9270, 9321, 9322, 9400 & BP 1221)

Superintendent Duffy reviewed the various policy reconciliations with the Governance Handbook.

MOTION: Mr. Panas approved revisions to BB 9000 and forwarding to the Board for approval. Ms. Cuevas seconded. Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Panas approved revisions to BB 9322 and forwarding to the Board for approval. Ms. Cuevas seconded. Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Panas approved revisions to BB 9270 and forwarding to the Board for approval. Ms. Cuevas seconded. Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Panas approved revisions to BP 1221 and forwarding to the Board for approval. Ms. Cuevas seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

None

- C. **Subcommittee recommendation to Board on the Parcel Tax Subcommittee (BP 1221)**
This item was covered under the previous agenda item.

Public Comment:

Kathy Fleming remarked about the composition of the Parcel Tax Subcommittee not feeling citizen friendly. She also spoke about the use of unclear acronyms and subjective removal of a committee member.

Alex Beltran spoke about definitions of PTA and PTO as well as more general parent groups.

- D. **Subcommittee recommendation to Board on District Complaint Protocol & Ombudsman (BP 1312.3)**
Superintendent Duffy provided background regarding the position of an ombudsperson and Board Policy 1312.3.

Public Comment:

Alex Beltran remarked about uniform complaints and possible conflict of interest in the procedure.

Committee Discussion:

Superintendent Duffy said that in order to maintain confidentiality, tracking of complaints would be maintained internally. Oversight and direct report for this position would be to the Superintendent.

MOTION: Mr. Panas moved approval of the recommendation to update BP 1312.3 to include an ombudsperson and quarterly updates to the Superintendent and Board as duties to the role of the ombudsperson. Ms. Cuevas seconded. Motion carried.

- IV. **Governance Subcommittee Meeting Schedule**
The next meetings were scheduled for May 17, 2017 and June 19, 2017 at 6:00 PM.

- V. **Adjournment**
Chairperson Cuevas adjourned the meeting at 10:18 PM.