

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Tuesday, September 25, 2012

7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Carson City School District Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Steve Reynolds at the Sierra Room, Community Center, 851 E. William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

ROLL CALL: Members Present
Steve Reynolds, President
Lynnette Conrad, Vice President
Stacie Wilke-McCulloch, Clerk
Jim Lemaire, Member
Barbara Myers, Member
Richard Stokes, Superintendent
Mike Pavlakis, Legal Counsel

Members Absent
Ron Swirczek, Member
Joanna Wilson, Member

Mrs. Stacie Wilke-McCulloch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA

Mrs. Susan Keema, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services suggested that Agenda Item 12, Presentation of Accountability Report for 2011-2012 School Year be pulled from the agenda, as the data has not been released by the Nevada Department of Education. Mrs. Keema will present the information at the October 9, 2012 meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Jim Lemaire, seconded by Mrs. Lynnette Conrad, **that the Carson City School District Board of Trustees approve the agenda, striking Agenda Item 12, Presentation of the Accountability Report.** Motion carried unanimously. (Mr. Swirczek and Mrs. Wilson were not present for the vote.)

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Mr. Stokes introduced Ms. Misty Harris, Carson High School Student Leadership Advisor. Ms. Harris explained that the candidates are nominated by their senior classmates. Ms. Harris introduced the 2012 Homecoming King, Richard Long and Queen, Krista Stocke. Richard is in Advanced Placement (AP) classes, involved in marching and concert band, climbing club, Link Crew and National Honor Society (NHS). Richard plans to attend college to pursue a degree in engineering. Krista is enrolled in Honors and AP classes. She also participates in Link Crew, Key Club, NHS and plays on the tennis team. Krista is currently working on her senior project with Phil Boyt, creator of Link Crew; a presentation on bullying will be presented to several hundred students.
- Mr. Stokes introduced Ms. Erin Been, Physical Education Teacher, Carson High School. Ms. Been introduced and presented Mr. Tim Milligan, General Manager, Capital Ford and Mrs. Suzanne Peckham, Customer Relations Manager, Capital Ford with a token of appreciation for their partnership with Carson High School. On September 8, 2012, Capital Ford hosted the Drive One 4UR School fundraiser; an opportunity for members of the community to test drive a vehicle. The event raised \$8,000 for several athletic programs. Capital Ford has partnered with Carson High School over the last 3 ½ years, raising \$46,000 for a variety of school and athletic programs. Mr. Milligan expressed his

appreciation for the opportunity to partner with Carson High School and looks forward to the continued partnership.

- Mr. Stokes introduced Mrs. Jennifer Chandler, Carson High School Social Studies Teacher and Department Chairperson. Mrs. Chandler has worked in the district for five years, has received 50 hours of professional development, working with the Washoe County School District on the Teaching American History Grant. Mrs. Chandler is the recipient of the Gilder-Lehrman History Institute, 2012 Nevada History Teacher of the Year. She was awarded \$1,000 and Carson High School will receive a library of selected resources from the Gilder-Lehrman History Institute. Carson High School is now nationally recognized as a Gilder-Lehrman affiliate high school. Mrs. Chandler's application included her philosophy of teaching, sample lesson plans, along with samples of student projects. Her lesson plans have been published at www.projecttahoe.com. In addition, Mrs. Chandler was selected to write Common Core curriculum for high school Social Studies. Mrs. Chandler, along with Mrs. Nicole Fagundes, Social Studies Teacher have been selected to represent the Carson City School District at the National Social Studies Conference. Mrs. Chandler has also been invited to participate in a historical seminar, where she will be studying at Gettysburg, PA.

Mr. Reynolds inquired about Mrs. Chandler's previous teaching experience. Mrs. Chandler explained that she has taught for five years in the Carson City School District, also teaching in four other states. Mrs. Chandler is certified in History and Spanish.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch commented on Mrs. Chandler's enthusiasm in the classroom.

Mrs. Myers commented on how helpful the Social Studies department and Department Chairperson at Carson High School has been for new teachers.

- Free drive-thru flu vaccine clinic will be available on Saturday, October 6, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Carson City Corporate Yard, 3303 Butti Way, which is sponsored by Carson City Health & Human Services
- Fremont Elementary School will be on Fall Break from October 1st – 19th; classes resume on Monday, October 22, 2012
- Parent Teacher conferences are being held on September 25 – 27, 2012 at Fremont Elementary School; minimum days for students, classes dismiss at 12:30 p.m.
- Early Release Day on Wednesday, October 10, 2012, for students on the traditional calendar; classes dismiss at the following times:
 - Pioneer High School – 12:15 p.m.
 - Carson High School – 12:30 p.m.
 - Middle Schools – 12:50 p.m.
 - Elementary Schools – 1:30 p.m.
- Two School Board workshops regarding the budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 have been scheduled on the following days:
 - October 11th – Carson Middle School cafeteria at 7:00 p.m.
 - October 17th – Eagle Valley Middle School gymnasium at 7:00 p.m.
- The first bell at Carson High School rings at 7:40 a.m.; classes begin at 7:45 a.m.
- Mr. Stokes extended get well wishes to Mr. Ron Swirczek

BOARD REPORTS

Karen Stone reported on the following activities at Pioneer High School:

- Parent Advisory Committee will meet monthly with Student Leadership, contact the office to sign up and participate
- Open House will be held on Thursday, September 27, 2012 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Blood Drive will take place on Wednesday, October 3, 2012
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) options for students at Pioneer High School and Carson Online include; Criminal Justice, Construction Management, and seven additional classes in Medical Technology

- Dates and additional information for upcoming trips to Ropes Course at Mount Rose and Rock Sports, in Reno, Nevada are still being planned
- Tutoring for upcoming High School Proficiency Exams (HSPE) exams will be provided for students interested in participating

Mallory Wilson reported on the following activities at Carson High School:

- Summary of Homecoming Week
 - Theme was Super Hero's
 - Three female students shaved their heads during the assembly after raising \$4,884 for the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation; exceeding their goal of \$3,000
 - Homecoming game; Varsity football won against Reed High School, 32 to 30
- Sports Report
 - Girls Soccer play on Tuesday, September 25, 2012
 - Volleyball game will take place on Tuesday, September 25, 2012
 - Boys Soccer play on Wednesday, September 26, 2012
 - Tennis matches and Volleyball games will be played on Thursday, September 27, 2012
 - Varsity Football plays at Damonte Ranch High School in Reno on Friday, September 28, 2012
 - Cross Country team will compete in the Stanford Invitational on Saturday, September 29, 2012
 - Boys Soccer game will be held on Saturday, September 29, 2012

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch provided a report on Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB):

- Will be attending the upcoming meeting on Saturday, October 6, 2012 in Las Vegas
- Annual conference will be held at the Atlantis Hotel in Reno on November 15 – 17, 2012

Mrs. Myers commented on the construction process at Seeliger Elementary School.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch recently attended the Open House at Mark Twain Elementary School, which was well attended. Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch commented on the activities that took place during Homecoming Week and encouraged everyone to attend the high school football games.

Mrs. Conrad reported on activities at the following schools:

- Attended Carson Middle Schools Open House, which was well attended and very organized. Mrs. Conrad is also impressed with Ms. Dedmon, 7th grade Leadership Advisor.
- Bordewich Bray Elementary School had a Hispanic Parent meeting, information was provided by Mrs. Chris Butson, ESL Administrator. A liaison will be attending the Hispanic Parent night and Parent Teacher Association (PTA) meetings.

Mr. Reynolds commented on the progress of the construction taking place at Eagle Valley Middle School.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

There were no Association reports.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE FAMILY LIFE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Susan Keema, Associated Superintendent of Educational Services introduced Mrs. Lisa Schuette, Chairperson of the Family Life Committee. Mrs. Schuette provided the annual Family Life Committee report to the Board.

Mrs. Schuette publicly thanked the other members of the committee:

- Sheila Story, Medical
- Cherie Mathis, Counselor
- Greg Berggren, Parent
- Lucy Kinder, Parent
- Joan Goddard, Parent
- Alice Mueller, Parent
- Shirley Harris, Religion
- Jennifer Cherpeski, Parent
- Bonnie Preston, Teacher

The meetings begin at 6:15 p.m. in Room 147 at Carson Middle School and are open to the public. The committee held several meetings throughout the year, updating curriculum, previewing and approving films and supplemental material:

- Am I Ready?; approved DVD, providing students with information regarding consequences about becoming involved in a sexual relationship, etc. The DVD was approved for all middle and high school students.
- Sex, etc.; approved magazine, written by teenagers for teenagers approved for high school students
- The Latest about HIV & AIDS; approved DVD approved for middle and high school students
- Teen Pregnancy and Prevention; listened to a senior project presentation by Sara Strathman; approved power point presentation for high school students
- Sex & Consequences; DVD approved for middle and high school students

Mrs. Schuette announced that she will no longer be serving as the Chairperson of the Family Life Committee; Mrs. Erin Been has assumed the role as Chairperson on the Family Life Committee.

Mrs. Keema recognized and presented Mrs. Schuette with a plaque for her years of service on the Family Life Committee. She also read into the record, a letter she wrote to Mrs. Schuette.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RE-APPOINTMENT OF SHEILA STORY, MEDICAL/NURSE REPRESENTATIVE; TO SERVE AN ADDITIONAL 3 YEAR TERM ON THE FAMILY LIFE COMMITTEE; SEPTEMBER 1, 2012 TO AUGUST 31, 2015

Mrs. Schuette explained that Family Life Committee Members serve a three year term. The following position is currently open for renewal; Mrs. Sheila Story, Medical/Nurse Representative. As a representative, Mrs. Story is in good standing and has expressed a desire to continue serving on the committee for an additional three year term. Mrs. Schuette recommended Board approval.

It was moved by Mrs. Lynnette Conrad, seconded by Mrs. Stacie Wilke-McCulloch, **that the Carson City School District Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Mrs. Sheila Story as the Medical/Nurse Representative to serve an additional three (3) year term; September 1, 2012 – August 31, 2015 on the Family Life Committee.** Motion carried unanimously. (Mr. Swirczek and Mrs. Wilson were not present for the vote.)

SELECTION OF FAMILY LIFE COMMITTEE MEMBERS; COUNSELOR CATEGORY AND PARENT CATEGORY

Mrs. Lisa Schuette explained that Mr. Greg Berggren, Parent Representative and Mrs. Cherie Mathis, Counselor Representative have resigned their positions on the Family Life Committee. Ms. Ann Felte submitted her application to serve as the Counselor Representative and Mr. Patrick Anderson submitted his application to serve as a Parent Representative. Mrs. Lucy Kinder, Parent Representative would like to renew her position for an additional three year term. The applicants are active in the community. Mrs. Schuette recommended Board approval.

It was moved by Mrs. Stacie Wilke-McCulloch, seconded by Mr. Jim Lemaire, **that the Carson City School District Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Mrs. Lucy Kinder as the Parent Representative and the selection of Mr. Patrick Anderson to serve as the Parent Representative and Ms. Ann Felte to serve as the Counselor Representative on the Family Life Committee for a three (3) year term; September 1, 2012 – August 31, 2015.** Motion carried unanimously. (Mr. Swirczek and Mrs. Wilson were not present for the vote.)

Mrs. Schuette expressed her appreciation for allowing her to serve on the Family Life Committee.

PRESENTATION ON RACE TO THE TOP GRANT APPLICATION

Dr. Steven Pradere, Director of Grants and Special Projects presented a power point presentation on the Race to the Top Grant Application. A copy is included in the permanent record.

The Carson City School District is applying for the Race to the Top for Districts Grant; application put forth by the U.S. Department of Education as continuation of the educational stimulus programs. The focus is to expand programs similar to School Improvement Grant (SIG); project at Eagle Valley Middle School and to provide districts the opportunity to compete for money to make changes in education.

In addition to Dr. Pradere, members of the community and district staff serving on the committee and participating in the process include:

- Mr. Joe McCarthy, Community Representative
- Mr. Anthony Turley, Director of Fiscal Services, Carson City School District
- Ms. Carrie Pryor, Implementation Specialist, Eagle Valley Middle School
- Dr. Ricky Medina, Director of Assessment & Accountability, Carson City School District
- Mr. Jose Delfin, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources, Carson City School District
- Mrs. Laura Valley, Ormsby County Educational Association (OCEA)
- Mrs. Susan Keema, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services, Carson City School District
- Mrs. Valerie Dockery, Principal, Bordewich Bray Elementary School
- Mrs. Sue Moulden-Horton, Nevada Department of Education
- Ms. Lupe Schofield, Carson High School
- Mr. Ron Beck, Principal, Carson High School
- Mrs. Karen Simms, Vice Principal, Eagle Valley Middle School
- Mrs. Teri Cantley, Classified Educational Support Association
- Mrs. LeAnn Saarem, Parent Representative and Parent Teacher Association
- Ms. Jennifer Tartan, Teacher, Carson High School and OCEA
- Mr. Mike Walker, Dean, Carson Middle School
- Mrs. Sheila Story, Carson City Health Services Personnel Association
- Mr. Jason Zona, Principal, Pioneer High School
- Ms. Stacy Vandenberg, Grants Department, Carson City School District

The committee has collaboratively reviewed the grant to identify possible improvements for the district. The committee's plan is to attain \$2 million to \$10 million, amongst over 1,000 applications. There will be approximately 25 awards nationwide.

The grant is focused on all content areas, looking at each student reaching college and career level skills in all courses for grades 6th through 12th. The project is an upgrade of the Eagle Valley Middle School project; looking at the development of curriculum, instruction, assessment and leadership being completed, developing a data system that can track progress on every standard, for each class. In addition, a component at the high school level includes, providing students guidance through a career pathway; providing students the opportunity to follow a career pathway, beginning with their freshman year. This will expand opportunities students currently have; restructure of the school for career clusters school wide. The program would also look at expanding the number of school counselors, from 5 to 6, with 1 assigned to each career pathway.

The project would also look at increasing the number of Instructional Coaches; the program would be at both middle schools and high schools. Eagle Valley Middle School currently has two Coaches, which would continue; three Coaches would be added to Carson Middle School, six would be added at Carson High School and one at Pioneer High School. The purpose of having the Coaches is to improve curriculum instruction and assessment work, to coach teachers through the process and to allow time for administrators to be instructional leaders.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch asked how long the positions would be grant funded. Dr. Pradere explained that the grant is for 2 ½ years; fully funded during that period. The grant becomes available in December, 2012, closing 2 ½ years from December, 2012.

Mrs. Myers commented on the wide range of money available for application. Dr. Pradere commented on the amount that is available for application; however, the final amount has not been determined, the cost of salaries is the primary cost. In addition, substitute costs, extra hourly costs and a portion for the Student Information System will also be included.

Mr. Reynolds inquired as to the possible number of applicants nationwide. Dr. Pradere has been informed that approximately 1,000 school districts have declared that they will be submitting applications. The Carson City School District has more than 50,000 residents, therefore, considered urban, not rural. The competition includes districts in Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, etc. Mr. Reynolds asked for additional information on some of the things the district would be a good model for, in receiving this type of grant. Dr. Pradere commented on how pleased the U.S. Department of Education has been with the model, process and potential of the project at Eagle Valley Middle School. The basis of the model is to transform a teacher's stance in education; greatest impact on student performance is the quality and effectiveness of the teacher. If a teacher is learner centered; measure success by what a student is able to do, they are highly effective. The project provides the background, necessary for a teacher to be learner centered. Delivery centered; teacher measures student success by what they say, how they do, etc., not by what students are able to do. The project at Eagle Valley Middle School also provides the data and support for a teacher that is learner centered. An additional strength in the application includes, the lack of support received for Nevada; one of the lowest funded, lowest per pupil funding rates, high free-reduced lunch rates, only 25% of students in Nevada do not require remediation at the college level and approximately 40% of students go to college.

Mrs. Myers inquired about the placement for Nevada. Dr. Pradere explained that the Legislative hurdles have been cleared, with all modules in place. The grants will be divided up nationwide to districts that received "Race to the Top" funding and those that did not; the percentages have yet to be released. Dr. Pradere believes the district has a 20% chance of receiving the grant.

Dr. Pradere summarized the main focus points of the grant:

- Individualized Educational Plan for each student; continuation of the model and data system at Eagle Valley Middle School to track student progress
- Secondary Focus; middle and high school level
- Scale up project of Eagle Valley Middle School
- Six Pathways; Agriculture, Business, Family and Consumer Science, Health Occupations, Information Technology, Trade and Industry. Any profession fits into anyone of the categories. Carson High School and Pioneer High School will have "School to Career" pathways. An additional component includes; "School to Community", which aligns with the Strategic Plan.
- Counseling Practices; allow students to have an electronic portfolio, view their career and academic pathway, plan along with parents where they want to go

Dr. Pradere commented on the expenditures associated with the grant:

- Application amount of \$5 million
- Fill the following positions; 1 administrator on special assignment, 12 Implementation Specialists, 1 Counselor, 1 Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) for Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, 3 Para Professionals for CTE program, money for substitute teachers and extra hours for work in curriculum; all content areas and the student data system

Included in the application is information that has been included in the Strategic Plan, District Improvement Plan, School Improvement Plan; a continuation of items already in place in the district, having high quality curriculum, a great assessment system, which leads students to mastery, outstanding instruction, good administrators, etc.

Mr. Lemaire expressed concerns with the grant; likelihood of receiving the grant, replacement of grant money once the grant is completed, all staff members having the ability to transfer, and length of availability of data system being longer than two years. Mr. Lemaire asked that the program be long-lasting, so that students could benefit.

Mr. Reynolds commented on the dedication of the members working on the committee and grant application.

Mrs. Conrad asked about the application process. Dr. Pradere explained that the process is facilitated, everyone comes together with their ideas, scenarios are reviewed and written, committee reviews, provides feedback and document is prepared for the public.

PRESENTATION ON ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP) RESULTS FOR 2011-2012

Mrs. Susan Keema, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services provided a power point presentation on the results of 2011-2012 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). A copy is included in the permanent record.

Mrs. Keema reported that this will be the last report for the student performance system, based on the requirements of "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB). The report will include current results in Math and English Language Arts (ELA), which includes reading and writing. The presentation will also include the historical impact to the District. Mrs. Keema will present the new Nevada School Performance Framework at the October 9, 2012 School Board meeting.

Mrs. Keema reviewed the criteria required for determining AYP and the results for the District. The presentation included the following information:

Student Assessments:

- Subject areas tested include: Math and English Language Arts (ELA) which includes reading and writing
- Nevada assessments used are:
 - Criterion Referenced Test (CRT) 3rd – 8th; Reading and Math
 - High School Proficiency (HSPE) for 10th and 11th; Reading and Math

Determining AYP:

- 95% of enrolled students must participate in each subgroup
- Seven ethnic/racial groups:
 - American Indian/Alaskan Native
 - Asian
 - Hispanic/Latino
 - Black/African American
 - White/Caucasian
 - Two or More Races
 - Pacific Islander
- Special Education Students (IEP); will be included in the new framework
- Limited English Proficient Students (LEP); will be included in the new framework
- Low Socio-Economic Status Students (FRL); will be included in the new framework

School Designations:

- High Achieving; significant number or increase in the number of proficient students
- Adequate; meet the standard that has been determined
- Watch List; failed AYP for the first year
- In Need of Improvement (INOI)

- Failed AYP for two consecutive years in the same subject area
- Must make AYP for two years to be removed from INOI
- Considered as “HOLD” after making AYP for one year

The new framework ranking will be considered a 5 star system with new categories.

Mrs. Keema announced the designations for 2011-2012:

- Fritsch Elementary – High Achieving; Growth
- Carson Montessori Charter School – Adequate
- Bordewich/Bray Elementary – Adequate
- Carson City School District – Watch List
- Al Seeliger Elementary – Adequate
- Empire Elementary – Adequate
- Carson High School – Watch List
- Pioneer High School – In Need of Improvement (Year 1)
- Mark Twain Elementary – In Need of Improvement (Year 3 - Hold)
- Eagle Valley Middle School – In Need of Improvement (Year 2)
- Fremont Elementary – Adequate (Hold - Year 6)
- Carson Middle School – In Need of Improvement (Year 3)

Fremont Elementary School, Empire Elementary School and Fritsch Elementary School increased their scores in every category for both Math and ELA. In addition, Fremont Elementary School is on “Hold – Year 6”; however they made AYP in Math. Seeliger Elementary School increased this past year in every category in ELA.

Carson High School was placed on the “Watch List” for the first time in the following categories; IEP and ELA. Carson High School students taking AP classes exceed the State average in the number of credits earned for students going to college.

Eagle Valley Middle School is in “Year 2” of “In Need of Improvement” in ELA for IEP and LEP students. However, in Math, improvement was made in every category. Carson Middle School is in “Year 3” of INOI in ELA for LEP and FRL group. Mark Twain Elementary School is also in “Year 3” of INOI in ELA for the IEP group. Pioneer High School made the requirements for academic achievement in Math and ELA; however because of their graduation rate, they are INOI. The required graduation rate is 85% or above; Carson High School was at 88% and Pioneer High School was 39%. The math scores at Pioneer High School increased from 29% to 53%.

Mrs. Keema presented historical longitudinal data that were benefits from NCLB:

- Requirements in 2003; ELA was 39%, Math was 43%. Reading since 2006-2007 has seen continued growth.
- Bordewich Bray Elementary School, as a Title School has never been on the “In Needs of Improvement” list, they have always made AYP
- There were approximately 198 homeless students 3 years ago, 300 students 2 years ago and 580 students last year; scores continued to increase
- Helped identify the need for technology; implementation of a 1:1 project
- Identified the need for full day kindergarten

No Child Left Behind focused on meeting the “bar”; however, with the new system 30% of what is looked at in student performance will be above the “bar”, not 100%. In addition, growth will be looked at.

Mrs. Keema presented data during the NCLB reporting requirement period which includes data in several groups; FRL, IEP and LEP. The new system also requires reporting for the same groups. Over time, with the old system, the district was able to increase achievement levels for the identified groups. The old system is setting the district up to be successful in the new system; now the growth will be rewarded. The new system will also close the achievement gap, with NCLB the scores increased, but the gap was not closed. Caucasian students have always

scored higher than the District average; District scores have always been higher than the State average scores.

The accreditation plan for Carson High School will include having additional opportunities to students in Honors and AP classes. In the new system, growth and gap will each be measured at 40% for growth. The new system is looking to be more balanced with growth, gap and the “bar”; however, the district needs to identify the baseline data. During the process, tests have changed, more rigorous now vs. the beginning, cut scores have been modified; having the greatest impact on middle schools.

Mrs. Keema introduced Mrs. Mary Garey, Principal, Fritsch Elementary School. Mrs. Garey provided information on what she believes makes Fritsch Elementary School a successful school:

- Character Counts Program; teaches students that character does count and that they are TERRIFIC students (Trustworthy, Respectful, Responsible, Fair, Caring and Good Citizens); examples are shared by students on what can be done to practice the traits, discipline is linked with one of the traits, incorporates expectations and vocabulary for students
- Parental Involvement; high number of volunteers, beginning a new program, Dads of Great Students (DOGS)
- Adoption of Success for All (SFA); uniform reading program that matches the Common Core Standards, good implementation of the program
- Staff; participation in collaborative efforts; SFA meetings, Professional Learning Communities (PLC), various committee meetings, use data to improve student achievement. The staff is loyal, dedicated and friendly, therefore contributing to the success of Fritsch Elementary School.

Mrs. Keema introduced Mrs. Casey Gilles, Principal, Fremont Elementary School. Mrs. Gilles congratulated Mrs. Garey and Ms. Evelyn Allred, Principal, Empire Elementary School on their accomplishments. Mrs. Gilles addressed the Board on their AYP results; Safe Harbor for both ELA and Math. The data showed a greater gain of 10%, the necessary percentage identified to make Safe Harbor; growth was seen with all students. The accomplishment was made by utilizing district resources; High Quality Sheltered Instruction (HQS), Common Core Math training, Response to Literature training, etc. Mrs. Gilles believes the implementation of SFA also contributed to their success; provided the data, training and tools for staff and students to be successful. Mrs. Gilles acknowledged Ms. Robin Ross, SFA Coordinator for her coaching and training. Mrs. Gilles believes the most important factor is the dedication and hard work of all staff members. Mr. Dan Brown, Vice Principal, Fremont Elementary School and Ms. Ross, along with all staff met to compile data sheets for every student; listing test scores, programs, strengths and weaknesses, attendance, etc. Mr. Brown and Ms. Ross worked with teachers on ways of providing students remediation and enrichment. A plan was devised and teachers found ways to offer additional resources to students; met with students twice a week afterschool to help with homework, met in intervention groups, etc. The theme for the year was “Rock the Test”. The plan for this year has been refined; data team was created, with representation from every group, completed training with Mr. Brown to support Measured Academic Progress (MAP) data, meet quarterly to review data and work on collaboration. Mrs. Gilles recognized the students for doing their best and the parents for their support.

Mrs. Keema introduced Ms. Evelyn Allred, Principal, Empire Elementary School and announced that Empire Elementary School made AYP in Math and ELA. Ms. Allred shared how Empire Elementary School went from being “In Needs of Improvement” for 12 years to making AYP; dedication and commitment.

Ms. Allred acknowledged all her staff members:

- Begins with crossing guards and outside duties, making sure students get to school safely
- Kitchen staff who prepare nutritious meals; breakfast and lunch, serves 100% free/reduced lunch, serve approximately 585 students
- Custodial staff keeps the building organized, clean, deliver supplies to staff
- Office staff; greets visitors, parents, etc. with a warm and friendly smile

- Para-Professionals; provide support and tutoring to students, encourage students to do their best, make sure teachers have needed materials so learning can take place
- Pre-K program helps students prepare for school, provide additional assistance to non-English speaking students, provides a parenting class for older siblings

Teaching staff and administration approached making AYP with a “laser-like” focus; focused on what needed to be done, letting go of the “extras”. Ms. Allred commented on the changes seen in SFA since its implementation twelve years ago; targeted training for the new program was provided to staff by Mr. Nathan Brigham, SFA Coordinator, giving them the tools they needed to achieve reading goals. Mr. Brigham has coaching sessions with teachers, providing an opportunity for “best practices” and time to ask questions.

Ms. Allred believes another important factor was the cultivation of teacher leadership; each grade level has a teacher leader who is responsible for ELA, one for Math and one for Writing. They represent the school at the district level and site level, facilitate training of their colleagues; bringing back knowledge and strategies, showing what they learned to be successful. Professional Learning Community (PLC) is run by the teachers, facilitated by Ms. Allred and Mr. Mark Bacon, Vice Principal. The time is focused on student learning, teacher reflection and use of student data. Teachers also set Strategic and Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Results based, Time Bound (SMART) goals based on their data, which is included in the classroom, use specialists from PDC, recent recipient of the 1:1 pilot program. Parents became very involved in the school; a Parent Liaison was hired, making the connection between home and school. In addition, monthly trainings are held for parents, partnered with Western Nevada College (WNC) to have classes taught at the school and have Parent University provided once a year, which provides parents the opportunity to learn about a variety of topics. The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) was run by parents, increasing parent involvement.

Ms. Allred recognized all the students; teachers can’t do it, if the students won’t do it. Students have to take testing seriously, show what they have learned; they work for hours on a test, participation rate for testing is 99%, etc. Ms. Allred is honored to be a part of the community of Empire Elementary School.

Mrs. Myers commented on how effective change comes from Principals. Mrs. Myers expressed her appreciation to Mrs. Garey, Ms. Allred and Mrs. Gilles for their presentations.

Mr. Reynolds commented on the approach of education today vs. several years ago.

PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT FOR 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

This item was pulled and tabled until the October 9, 2012 meeting.

UPDATE ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2012; CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICIAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT COUNT

Mrs. Keema presented information on the official count day, which was September 21, 2012. The current student enrollment is 7,635, an increase of 41 students. The number of students enrolled is reported in various ways, one being the Distributive School Account (DSA); budget. The date is also associated with information selected for the accountability report, submitting test data, etc.

There are 146 “out of county” variance attending Carson City School District schools and 52 variances approved for students to attend schools in outlying counties. Mrs. Keema explained that the number of kindergarten students are weighted; equals 2/3 of a student or the amount received by the State. The district receives \$6,109 from the State for funding education.

Mrs. Myers commented on variances and the number of limited resources for student with special needs and the potential costs associated with approving variances. Mrs. Myers also asked for additional information on how variances are granted. Mrs. Keema commented on items administrators look at prior to approval; room in particular grade level, available seating, good attendance, good academic status, etc.

Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch asked if the student count also included Carson Online. Mrs. Keema explained that they are included in the count for Pioneer High School. Mrs. Wilke-McCulloch inquired about the number of pre-kindergarten programs at the schools. Mrs. Keema explained that Mark Twain and Empire Elementary Schools have the Pre-K programs. In addition, the kindergarten enrollment number has increased. Mr. Stokes explained that 602 students are enrolled in kindergarten this year vs. 566 last year.

Mr. Lemaire commented on the increase in student enrollment over the numbers from previous years.

Mrs. Myers commented on all kindergarten and how the Department of Education does not reimburse the district. Mr. Stokes explained that the district is looking at ways to make all-day kindergarten available for students.

Mrs. Conrad inquired about where the funding comes from for Pre-K. Mrs. Keema explained that Pre-K funding comes from grants. Mrs. Conrad would like to see an additional focus placed on Pre-K programs. Mrs. Keema explained that the Early Childhood Literacy Council will continue their partnership with the district; kindergarten and Pre-K teachers will be meeting with local Pre-K and day care owners to review the standards.

In addition, Mr. Jose Delfin, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources expressed comments heard around the community and the district about having a Learner Center Model and having good leadership in Carson City.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Jim Lemaire, seconded by Mrs. Lynnette Conrad, **that the Carson City School Board of Trustees approve consent agenda items (A), (D), (J) and (K) as submitted.** Motion carried unanimously. (Mr. Swirczek and Mrs. Wilson were not present for the vote.)

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

Mr. Reynolds would like to have a better understanding of counseling and career tracking at the high schools.

Present agenda items to Mr. Richard Stokes or President Steve Reynolds.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the Carson City School District Board of Trustees will be on Tuesday, October 9, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT

There will be no further business to come before the members of the Board in public meeting; President Reynolds declared the meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Stacie Wilke-McCulloch, Clerk

Date