



AMERICAN CIVITAS

Board: Douglas County, Nevada School Board

Date: August 21, 2025

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	Agenda Item	Outcome	Vote Count
1	Call to Order and Adoption of Flexible Agenda	Flexible agenda adopted	Passed (7-0)
2	Pledge of Allegiance	Pledge conducted	For information only
3	Special Recognition – Betts Scholarship Presentation	Noelle Sweeney awarded scholarship	For information only
4	Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items	Comments received and noted	For information only
5	Agenda Item 4: Acknowledgment of Open Meeting Law Violation	Violation acknowledged	Passed (7-0)
6	Agenda Item 14: Superintendent Evaluation	Superintendent rated highly effective	Passed (7-0)
7	Agenda Item 15: Superintendent Compensation	Compensation provisions ratified	6 ayes, 1 opposed (Ms. Miller)
8	Agenda Item 5: Leadership Presentation	Presentation delivered by Principal Amy Carter	For information only
9	Agenda Item: Technology - Acceptable Use Policy - (1st Reading) - (For Discussion Only)	Policy discussed, no action taken	For information only
10	Agenda Item 8: DCSD Shout-Outs	Employee efforts recognized	For information only
11	Agenda Item 9: Consent Items	Consent items approved	Passed (7-0)
12	Agenda Item 10: Board Policy 551, Student Political Activities	Policy approved on second reading	Passed (7-0)
13	Agenda Item 11: Board Policy 529, Suspension and Expulsion	Policy approved on second reading	Passed (7-0)
14	Agenda Item 12: Board Policy 809, Transportation Field Trips	Revised policy approved on second reading	Passed (7-0)
15	Agenda Item 13: Health Advisory Committee Position	Melinda Knighting appointed	Passed (7-0)

	Agenda Item	Outcome	Vote Count
16	Agenda Item 16: Board Reports	Trustee activities reported	For information only
17	Agenda Item: Superintendent Report and Information	Report and updates provided	For information only

Executive Summary

The Douglas County School District (DCSD) Board meeting on September 4, 2025, addressed a range of administrative, policy, and operational matters, concluding before 7:30 p.m. The session began with procedural items, including the adoption of a flexible agenda and the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the Betts Scholarship recognition for Noelle Sweeney. Public comment highlighted concerns such as the unofficial dog park, budget transparency, and staffing reallocations. Key policy discussions included the acknowledgment of an open meeting law violation, superintendent evaluation and compensation, technology acceptable use policies, transportation field trip adjustments, and second readings of student political activities, suspension/expulsion, and health advisory committee appointments. Board reports showcased trustee engagements, while the superintendent's report detailed employee recognition, donations, enrollment trends, facility challenges, and strategic planning

Highlights

- **Superintendent Evaluation and Compensation:** The board unanimously rated Superintendent Alvarado as highly effective (averages: vision 3.89, organization 4, collaboration 3.71, ethics 4.64, governance 4.4) and approved his compensation with a 6-1 vote, aligning with a 3% step increase and administrative raises.
- **Policy and Committee Updates:** Second readings of Board Policies 551 (Student Political Activities) and 529 (Suspension and Expulsion) were unanimously approved, alongside revised Transportation Field Trip Policy 809, and Melinda Knighting was appointed to the Health Advisory Committee.
- **Enrollment and Performance Trends:** Superintendent Alvarado reported a 125-student enrollment decline from the previous year. Pueblo Middle School's presentation by Principal Amy Carter highlighted a decline in 8th grade math proficiency from 22.4% to 19.7% and 7th grade ELA from 27% to 22%, despite gains in 6th to 7th grade ELA (22.9% to 46.6%) and overall attendance improvement from 21.4% to 7.23%.

Adoption of the Agenda

The DCSD Board adopted a flexible agenda.

Public Comment: No comments were received.

Vote: Unanimous (6-0) in favor of adopting the flexible agenda.

Special Recognition – Betts Scholarship Presentation

Superintendent Alvarado introduced the Betts Scholarship as an annual DCSD award, typically presented by Ms. Betts, and announced Sweeney as the recipient. Sweeney shared that she is a para-professional at CC Manui, pursuing a teaching career with an associate's degree already earned, and plans to continue her education. Ms. Betts relinquished her presentation time to her son, Chris Betts, a Douglas High School graduate. Chris Betts expressed gratitude for the opportunity and outlined the Dr. F. Rebibach Education Foundation's 13th year of providing financial assistance to teachers advancing degrees, as well as bus drivers, shop teachers, and welding instructors. He reaffirmed Sweeney as the recipient and asked her to briefly describe her background and goals. Sweeney stated she is training to teach elementary school. Chris Betts sought further details on her anticipated completion and attending institution; Sweeney responded it would take one and a half years at Grand Canyon University.

Trustees' Comments: None provided beyond the chair's remarks during the recognition.

Public Comment: None taken.

Vote: None taken.

Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)

Kyle Delphi, President of Western Nevada College, thanked the board and Superintendent Alvarado's office for partnerships in the Jump Start and dual enrollment programs, noting that nearly 300 of the approximately 900 Douglas County students served last year were high school dual enrollees, comprising 40% of Western Nevada College's enrollment in its six-county area. These programs support credits for four-year degrees or workforce training. Delphi also provided a brief update on the Aspire partnership, stating that the lease for the Douglas campus would not extend beyond June 30, 2026, due to its planned conversion into an allied health-focused nursing facility with a \$4.5 million federal grant over three to four years. He offered future accommodations for district space needs and willingness to return for presentations. The chair acknowledged his contribution and numbers, suggesting follow-up discussions. A trustee inquired about questions, and Alvarado proposed arranging a dual enrollment presentation for later in the year, which was well-received.

Jim Ballantyne, a Douglas County resident, addressed concerns about an unofficial dog park behind the district office, stating he found no trace of an approval process. He reported that persistent dog owners allegedly forced the issue through disruptive behavior, including denting

employee cars and rudeness, leading the acting superintendent to install a west-end gate, lock 7th Street gates, and add signage directing to 8th Street. This shift caused further issues at his property, including rude parking by dog owners. As an unnotified homeowner, he requested that if the area continues as a dog park, the board unlock the 7th Street gate and remove signs, install a county roadside gate, and lock the 8th Street gate. The chair thanked him and noted the volume of information, arranging to obtain his contact via Ms. Miller.

Marty Swisher, a Gardnerville resident, opened with positivity about the energetic start to the school year, likening it to launching a rocket with collaborative planning. He urged the board to focus decisions on students and staff, avoiding unrelated issues, and strongly recommended a monthly budget update as a standing agenda item to address district financial concerns and public awareness.

Valerie Lutgman, former Assistant Director of IT and a Carnival Elementary parent, requested that funds from her recently eliminated position be redirected to inclusive education staffing, which she described as critically under-resourced, rather than allocated inappropriately.

Open Meeting Law Violation

Mr. Russell, DCSD Council, indicating that the board need to acknowledge the open meeting law violation as stipulated in the agenda. He emphasized that this acknowledgment did not signify agreement with the violation but represented compliance with a directive from the Attorney General requiring the board to formally recognize it.

Trustee Comments: None received.

Public Comment: Adrian Sawyer, a parent of three DCSD students, delivered an extensive critique, asserting that the Open Meeting Law's purpose is to ensure transparency, accountability, and public trust through open governance. She accused three unnamed current trustees of violating this law by engaging in serial communication outside public meetings and forming a constructive quorum to evade its requirements, marking the fifth such violation since their tenure began. She emphasized the severity of this breach occurring at their first meeting, interpreting it as evidence of a preordained agenda deliberately hidden from public view, which she said validated community skepticism about the board's transparency and direction. Highlighting the board's oversight of 4,745 students, she argued that such actions were hypocritical, undermining the values parents expect instilled in their children, and constituted a mockery of the trustee position. She noted a procedural mandate for the board to vote on accepting the Attorney General's findings publicly, referencing last month's rejection by two implicated trustees as an act of pettiness, expressing hope for a different outcome to avoid signaling disdain for public oversight. Cheryl Blomstrom reinforced Sawyer's points, commending her truthfulness and eloquence, and stressed that the public has a right to know how the board manages both financial resources and the education of children. She criticized the initial meeting's violation as a result of poor advice, lamenting the board's failure to learn from it, and linked the incident to a lawsuit and writ of mandamus that exposed further violations, both large and small, insisting that the board must improve and that those ignoring this lesson should feel ashamed. Marty Swisher, a Gardnerville resident, provided a

detailed historical context, outlining multiple open meeting law violation complaints adjudicated by the Attorney General: a complaint against trustees Gilkerson, Kangas, and Wagstaff for consulting legal counsel during a meeting was dismissed with no wrongdoing found; a complaint by Leslie Holkinson alleging her First Amendment rights were curtailed—where she was asked to be quiet, sit, and leave under Trustee Jansen’s presidency—was upheld, prompting Swisher to suggest a moral, though not legally required, apology, with the board unanimously accepting the findings; and a complaint by Mae Hyatt concerning the superintendent candidate selection process conducted outside public meetings was confirmed as a violation, referencing a July 23, 2025, Record Courier article where Trustee Chanson claimed Genie Dwyer controlled the process, which Swisher contested given the board’s approved process with Joey Gilbert Law, criticizing the lack of responsibility and calling for better conduct, noting a 4-2 vote against acceptance by trustees Burns and Jansen. For the current issue, he detailed the Attorney General’s finding that trustees Burns, Dickerson, Jansen, and Engelkirk predetermined officer positions outside public meetings, constituting a constructive quorum and violating the law, urging any dissenting votes to be publicly explained. Beth Bunch expressed profound disbelief at the violation designation, arguing that informal idea-sharing among trustees should not be penalized, and cited the unaddressed departure of three trustees from a meeting as a more significant breach. She questioned the Nevada State Attorney General’s impartiality, alleging a targeted campaign against four specific trustees amid orchestrated meetings by an opposing faction, describing this as malicious, hurtful harassment that persisted, driving up legal costs. She singled out Mr. Swisher as a self-appointed financial watchdog, likening him to a fox guarding the henhouse, and concluded that the situation was pathetic, questioning past unpunished pre-meeting activities by other board members, suggesting a biased enforcement pattern.

Vote: Unanimous action in acknowledgement of the Open Meeting Law Violation

Superintendent Evaluation

Trustee Wagstaff presented the agenda item – the adoption of a Superintendent Evaluation Score. She reflected on multiple prior attempts over recent months to address this matter, expressing hope for successful execution. Describing the process as an open public endeavor, the chair referenced article 9 of the superintendent’s contract with the board, which mandates an annual evaluation and adoption of an evaluation score. An opportunity for feedback was offered, building on prior submissions in meeting packets and discussions. Ms. Knighting read the evaluation score - vision and strategic leadership was 3.89, categorized as highly effective; management of organizational leadership averaged 4, also highly effective; collaboration with families and stakeholders averaged 3.71, highly effective; ethics and integrity averaged 4.64, rated excellent; and governance and advocacy leadership averaged 4.4, highly effective.

Trustee Comments: None provided beyond procedural facilitation and the motion.

Public Comment: Adrian Sawyer, parent of three DCSD students, supported the evaluation approval but emphasized the value of trustee comments on the evaluation form’s last page, which detailed performance indicators, score rationales, celebrations, and improvements, noting only one trustee completed it fully. She expressed disappointment in the lack of comprehensive input,

given trustees' proximity to the superintendent's behind-the-scenes work, and hoped for better participation in the December evaluation using the same tool. Mallory Luchman, former assistant director of IT and Gardnerville Elementary parent, raised a specific concern about whether the evaluation of Superintendent Frankie Alvarado incorporated reviews of formal complaints regarding student dignity, focusing on staff-managed issues involving Chromebook misuse and illicit activities, questioning if these were factored into assessments of his student protection efforts.

Vote: Unanimous approval the rating of Highly Effective for the DCSD Superintendent.

Superintendent Compensation

The chair, upon Mr. Russell's prompting, confirmed progression to agenda item 15, identified as superintendent compensation, with Mr. Russell present for this and the subsequent item. Mr. Russell advised that the item was listed for possible action, noting no obligation to act, and referenced paragraph four of the superintendent's contract, stipulating that post-first year, the superintendent receives raises or considerations equivalent to other administrative employees, rendering action unnecessary unless modified by mutual agreement. He clarified that Superintendent Alvarado would automatically receive the administrative increase. Ms. Miller inquired about the percentage increase for site administrators, to which Mr. Alvarado responded that administrators received a step increase and PERS coverage, citing budget constraints and declining to request additional salary increases. Mr. Russell corrected an earlier unclear statement, confirming Alvarado's 3% step increase aligned with administrative adjustments. Mr. Russell confirmed all administrators received their step increase post-July 1, already implemented, with no additional raises, including for Alvarado. Mr. YRD noted ongoing negotiations precluded a precise percentage, though step increases and PERS were covered.

Mr. Burns moved to ratify the contract's compensation.

Trustee Comments:

- **Trustee Miller** inquired about administrative increases.

Public Comment: Adrian Sawyer supported the raise, questioning timing and retroactivity. Marty Swisher endorsed the raise, inquiring about PERS and potential higher percentages.

Vote: 6-1 with Trustee Miller opposed, motion passed.

Leadership Presentation

Principal Amy Carter of Pueblo Middle School delivered a comprehensive presentation on the school's progress, focusing on the theme "B212, go the extra degree," inspired by water boiling at 212 degrees versus 211, encouraging staff, students, and families to push for greater impact. The school's mission is to ensure all students achieve educational excellence, supported by a staff vision—reaffirmed from last year—aiming to create a safe, supportive environment for critical thinking, collaboration, and skill development, while inviting students, families, and the community to celebrate successes and tackle challenges together. A student-produced video, crafted by the

yearbook class under Brandi Gertner's leadership, featured 8th graders Miranda and Riley, 11th grader Gail (possibly a transcription error), and 7th graders Lucy, Sophia, and Kayla, along with Stephen, explaining the B212 theme. They highlighted new tech policies requiring phones, AirPods, and smartwatches to be turned off and stored in backpacks all day, new schedules with shorter classes and block days (odd periods on Wednesday, even on Thursday), daily advisory periods, and a shift of tutoring to advisory on block days, with Tuesday clubs led by teachers replacing after-school sessions.

Carter showcased last year's achievements, noting a significant drop in absenteeism from 21.4% in 2023-24 to 7.23% in 2024-25, which hovered around 6.5% before a final week increase, credited to strong student relationships and events like the yearbook program. SBAC scores improved, with ELA proficiency rising from 30% to 35.5% and math from 19.8% to 22.43%, though science dipped from 35% to 32%. Cohort data revealed gains, such as 6th grade ELA jumping from 22.9% to 46.6% in 7th grade, but some declines, like 7th grade math dropping from 22.4% to 19.7% in 8th grade. Current enrollment stands at 422 students (126 6th, 155 7th, 148 8th), with an attendance rate of 93.77%. MAP data showed 53-55% of 423 students met growth targets from fall to spring, with a focus on supporting the 20-40th percentile (114 students) and 41-60th percentile (91 students) groups.

Key initiatives included math interventions, funded by board resources, where an eight-teacher team formed homogeneous groups during advisory from November to February and March to June, using roadmaps to address gaps like multiplication (59% initially, dropping to 44%), with high performers engaging in Shark Tank projects. For 2025-26, tutoring moved to advisory periods—one day for interventions in reading or math, the next for homework and re-assessments—to better reach students unable to stay after school. Close reading strategies were introduced, inspired by the math department's successful three reads routine, uniting the school's four math teachers in PLCs. Training from Leslie Peters and a "Shifting the Balance" book club addressed reading gaps, especially for math and science questions.

Carter outlined three goals from the continuous improvement plan: 100% of students to show measurable MAP reading growth (hitting projected RIT scores or any progress, especially for low performers), 100% of certified staff trained in three reads or close reads for Tier 1 instruction, and 100% student connection to a club, event, sport, or extracurricular activity. These are supported by daily advisory, monthly PBIS events, dances, spirit weeks, a Palo Luau in September, and a new Pays Lab grant. Challenges include training non-reading-specialist staff (addressed with PDC and RPDP partnerships for reciprocal teaching), varying parent involvement (improved by RSVP success for orientation, ParentSquare, and a 60% open rate on her weekly FinalSight newsletter covering themes, homework tips, handbooks, transportation, nurse forms, and upcoming events), and connecting disengaged students (targeted with surveys for subpopulations). Carter sought trustee business partnerships for the Angel Tree, drama sets, and financial aid, receiving an offer from Ms. Dickerson for costumes, wigs, and jewelry, with Carter agreeing to email her drama teacher.

During the Q&A, a trustee asked about measurable growth, and Carter explained it involves meeting projected RIT scores or showing any progress, particularly for lower performers, a topic of ongoing discussion. Ms. Jones praised the phone policy, which Carter noted staff and families support. Mr. Z commended the data-driven presentation, inquiring about 5th grade comparisons;

Carter confirmed using SBAC data from feeder schools, shared with teachers for PLCs, though MAP data is pending. He also asked about the schedule change: Carter detailed moving from a rotating block (85-minute periods, inconsistent) to a modified block (51-minute periods, daily advisory for goals and reflection, 70-minute mid-block advisory on Wednesday/Thursday) based on staff surveys, improving consistency and aligning with CVMS and DHS, benefiting IT and a student attending high school classes. Mr. Z suggested advisory clubs for the 100% connection goal due to parent schedules, which Carter noted is under consideration. A trustee shared positive parent feedback on a child's switch from private school and impression of Carter. Another asked about tutoring assignments, with Carter indicating ongoing discussions for form-based teacher pulls, possibly alternating math and reading blocks. A trustee inquired about enrichment for advanced students, suggesting advisory clubs, which Carter affirmed as a possibility. A trustee confirmed advisory occurs daily, with 70 minutes mid-block on Wednesday/Thursday.

Trustee Comments:

- **Trustee Dickerson** offered costumes, wigs, jewelry for drama; Carter agreed to connect via email.
- **Trustee Miller** inquired on measurable growth definition: projected RIT scores or any growth, especially for low performers.
- **Trustee Jansen** commended phone policy.
- **Trustee Zinke** praised data thoroughness, asked about 5th grade comparisons: Carter confirmed use of SBAC data from feeders, shared with teachers for PLCs. He asked schedule rationale: shifted from rotating block (85-minute periods, inconsistent) to modified block (51-minute periods, daily advisory for goals/reflection, mid-block advisory 70 minutes) for consistency, student engagement, alignment with CVMS/DHS, IT ease; staff surveyed and voted on options. Zinke suggested clubs during advisory for 100% connection goal, considering parent schedules; Carter noted under discussion. A trustee shared positive parent feedback on school switch and principal impression.
- **Trustee Gneiting** asked tutoring assignment: pending finalization, possibly form-based teacher pulls, alternating math/reading blocks.
- **Trustee Wagstaff** confirmed advisory frequency: daily, 70 minutes mid-block on Wednesday/Thursday.

Public Comment: None solicited.

Vote: Not applicable.

Technology – Acceptable Use Policy

Jared Rex, Director of IT, introduced two agreements under review: a student acceptable use agreement and a staff acceptable use policy. The student agreement aims to foster responsible digital citizenship, deemed essential given technology's pervasive role, providing a framework to teach appropriate and safe use. It addresses safety guidelines to counter online dangers such as cyberbullying, online predators, and phishing scams, with a recent district phishing attempt cited as an example. Privacy education emphasizes not sharing personal information, reflecting the

presenter's personal concern as a parent of a 12-year-old exposed to risks despite supervision. Integrity is highlighted, particularly with AI's growing influence, noting the presenter's son's MBA experience and the need to guide students on respectful online conduct. The agreement clarifies that school technology is a privilege, not a right, with actions carrying consequences. The staff policy establishes professional boundaries, legal protection, and alignment with district policies to support student learning, incorporating FERPA for student data protection and parental rights, while defining roles—prohibiting unauthorized software downloads, restricted site access, and personal gain use. The presenter underscored that these agreements protect students, teachers, and the district, outline digital engagement rules, and promote safe, productive learning environments, driven by a commitment to student and staff well-being.

Questions followed. Mr. Zinke welcomed the presenter, inquiring about Chromebook timers shutting off at 10 p.m., affecting homework, and whether this was district-wide or adjustable per child.

Jesse Bates clarified that internet cutoffs are tiered—9 p.m. for elementary, 10 p.m. for middle school, midnight for high school—currently uniform but adjustable, enforced last year to curb after-hours misuse per Ed Services' direction, though not easily managed case-by-case. Mr. Zinke confirmed this as separate from the policy, focusing on student protection. Trustee Miller asked about internet access for traveling students, citing a cheer nationals trip in Florida where 4th-6th graders couldn't use hotel Wi-Fi for schoolwork, resorting to slow hotspots. Rex acknowledged this as a customer service issue, not policy-specific, and prioritized "remote ready" capabilities, referencing COVID lessons and past tech drills (e.g., payroll continuity), planning to rethink practices despite workarounds. Trustee Dickerson raised concerns about late hours, suggesting concessions for special cases like sports (e.g., home at 8:30 p.m). Mr. Rex proposed surveys for staff, parents, and students on cutoff times, endorsed as valuable input. Trustee Burns questioned laptop monitoring under the policy's review clause, and the presenter confirmed technical capabilities for access as needed, citing a past hacking incident involving one student distributing access to 29 others.

Trustee Comments: None provided beyond the trustee remarks during the first reading.

Public Comment: None taken.

Vote: None taken.

DCSD Shout-Outs

Superintendent Alvarado took the floor to present agenda item 8, focusing on recognizing the hard work of DCSD employees in preparing for the school year. He emphasized that schools do not open autonomously, lacking AI or automated systems to clean facilities, create master schedules, roster students, or perform maintenance, and highlighted the efforts of 260-day employees, including facilities, maintenance, IT personnel, office staff, principals, vice principals, cabinet members, and secretaries, who worked diligently over the summer despite challenges like the district office closure. This effort ensured a successful first day, marked by smiles from students, teachers, leaders, and parents, crediting the collective preparation. Alvarado expressed gratitude for their

dedication, noting they go above and beyond, and invited trustees to add their own shout-outs. Trusted Dickerson seconded the appreciation, specifically praising janitors for their year-round efforts, recalling a personal connection with a neighbor janitor. Ms. Gnieting shared her experience visiting schools on the first day, noting the clean facilities and excited atmosphere, particularly at CVMS, where staff managed parent drop-offs safely with signs and vests. Trustee Burns highlighted the critical role of bus drivers and mechanics, crediting a video collaboration, and honored the late Larry Lampkin, with Jeannie affirming their cooperative nature and suggesting a visit to mechanic head Travis. Trustee Miller recounted her children's excitement—her freshman loving high school, her sixth grader thrilled yet exhausted at a new school—attributing it to staff efforts

Consent Items

The DCSD Board approved the Consent Calendar as presented.

, noting past payments and ongoing clarification efforts with the parents' group.

Trustee Comments:

- **Trustee Miller** was concerned regarding the cost of ParentSquare, listed on voucher 2613 for \$22,000, insuring this was a one-time or yearly charge; it was confirmed as an annual cost. She inquired about Learning A to Z charges, noting Mr. Alvarado's clarification that these were for Title I schools, and questioned why some schools paid while others did not, given parent group contributions. Alvarado confirmed the expenditure came from Zephyr Cove's discretionary account, with uncertainty about PTO reimbursement
- **Trustee Zinke** addressed Edmentum, involving 200 program licenses and 150 Apex learning tutorials, seeking clarification on whether this exceeded current enrollment or accounted for potential additions; it was explained that Edmentum covers Inspire High School, credit recovery, and Jacobson High School at China Springs, with extra licenses as a contingency.

Public Comment: None received.

Vote: Vote unanimous to approve Consent Calendar.

Agenda Item 10: Board Policy 551, Student Political Activities

Superintendent Alvarado. Alvarado reported that this was a second reading, with changes incorporated as requested by the board following the first reading, and recommended approval for implementation. No further information provided.

Trustee Comments: None provided.

Public Comment: None received.

Vote: Vote unanimous in adopting BP 551

Agenda Item 11: Board Policy 529, Suspension and Expulsion

Superintendent Alvarado stated that no changes were made to the policy since the first reading and recommended approval for implementation

Trustee Comments: None provided.

Public Comment: None received.

Vote: Vote Unanimous for BP 529

Agenda Item 12: Board Policy 809, Transportation Field Trips

Ms. Dwyer discussed Board Policy 809, Transportation Field Trips. She clarified the policy applies to activities outside sanctioned events like athletics, band, or authorized clubs, not covering practices or state-sanctioned sports such as ski team or golf at driving ranges, which remain funded. She addressed concerns about additional tournaments or activities beyond regular seasons, explaining the district previously covered significant costs and now encourages fundraising for these, not discouraging participation. Dwyer, with Director of Transportation Blair Hines, mapped school travel destinations, establishing a 60-mile radius as a practical boundary based on typical routes, addressing a query about its origin. Superintendent Alvarado elaborated on student transportation, noting past restrictions limited transport to parents or guardians, with a new policy allowing authorized adults via parent permission forms and students driving themselves intra-district, explicitly prohibiting peer driving to areas like Carson or Washoe. He cited a recent out-of-town tournament where a parent transport was approved, aiming to address bus driver shortages causing late returns (e.g., 11 p.m. games after 11 a.m. departures). Alvarado worked with Athletic Administrator Dan Singer, Jim Pace, and Blair Hines, ensuring coach and administrative approval for forms, prioritizing team travel for leadership and bonding but allowing exceptions. Dwyer clarified that parent permission slips for carpooling require liability release, not a blanket authorization, referencing past swim team practices where multiple permission slips were carried. Background checks for authorized drivers are required, and a volunteer clearance is required for transporting others' children, akin to field trip chaperones, but not for one's own child. Emergency contacts in Infinite Campus suffice for grandparents or relatives. Discussion included volleyball team needs with driver shortages, where parent forms and sign-in/out sheets alleviated issues, and a call for pre-planned arrangements (24 hours or season-start) to reduce coach burden, targeting smaller sports like golf or swim where late bus returns (10-11 p.m.) are common.

Trustee Comments: None beyond the Trustee's comments during presentation.

Public Comment: A former coach noted historical transportation rules for custody, questioned coach liability with forms, and challenged background check necessity for non-parents.

Vote: Vote unanimous in the approval of BP 809.

Health Advisory Committee Position

President Wagstaff presented the open health advisory committee position, noting that assignments typically occur in January but highlighted a need for board representation at the

publicly noticed meetings, which had previously lacked it. The chair clarified it was not a new committee and opened discussion on board participation. Trustee Gneiting expressed interest in serving, stating she currently holds no board positions and prefers an alternate role rather than leadership, nominating herself. Ms. Dwyer provided details: meetings occur the fourth Tuesday of each month from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. (rarely lasting the full duration), excluding July, and include representatives from all bargaining units, herself, and the benefits and risk management coordinator. She described the committee's role in guiding the self-funded insurance program, with agendas and minutes available.

Trustee Comments: None received.

Public Comment: None received.

Vote: Vote unanimous in appoint Trustee Gneiting to the Health Advisory Committee Position

Board Reports

Trustee Zinke reported minimal activity due to travel, noting the school start, a shift to quarterly Chamber meetings, no action at the Parks and Rec committee meeting (with future action pending),

Trustee Miller spoke to her attendance at a July 30th leadership training with site administration and cabinet where Superintendent Alvarado's inspiring hope speech and wildly important goals (WIG) were highlighted, along with multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) efforts. She also attended an August 11th NASB strategic planning training via Zoom, conducted site tours on the first day at George Whittell High School and Zephyr Cove Elementary, participated in an August 19th annual governance training, and noted an upcoming Parents Club event, "The Way We Gather," closing Warrior Way with tables under a road permit. She mentioned enjoying the July 30th leadership meeting for staff interactions and the August 19th calendar meeting.

Trustee Jansen echoed attending the 19th and 30th meetings

Trustee Gneiting reported attending the August 11th NASB strategic planning workshop, leaving before Gardner-Bell Elementary due to the district office relocation, and enjoyed visiting schools on the first day, popping into classes, attending the 19th governance training, and the first football game.

Trustee Burns also attended the 19th and 30th meetings with Aaron, Suzy, and Melinda, and serves on the county debt management committee, inactive recently due to the Justice Building project but anticipating sewer and water issues.

Trustee Wagstaff described touring all schools on the first day with Weyer, Alvarado, and Sadie, noting the district's top-notch energy and excited students, attending the 19th training, and the County Commissioner's Meeting to report a successful first week, inviting commissioners to the next graduation after their China Springs visit with Robin Titus to boost funding. This trustee cannot attend the September 5th NASB Vegas meeting due to commitments, with Ms. Dickerson stepping in.

Agenda Item: Superintendent Report and Information

Superintendent Alvarado began with donations, thanking Kevin Martinez for \$1,200 to Douglas High School soccer, noting a previously unlisted \$5,000 from Burlington Coat Factory, and acknowledging Richmond Duffin's contributions to Douglas High programs (amount pending for the next agenda). He announced two fundraisers: a pickleball tournament on September 13th from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with music, food, raffles, and a kid zone from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., including Dunk a Teacher and Dunk Pink events. Enrollment updates showed a 125-student decrease from last year, better than the projected 200, with an unexpected 60-student spike at CVMS, nearing 660 students. He introduced Administrative Regulation 216A, tied to a policy, and announced future inclusion of such items as operational, unlike past practices of board discussion and public comment. Administrative Regulation 705A was noted, eliminating the requirement for employees to return badges when changing sites to reduce costs, with higher replacement fees for lost badges. He mentioned the MES 30th anniversary on September 6th. In his report, Alvarado enjoyed the July 30th three-day professional learning with site leaders and cabinet, themed "inspiring hope," emphasizing teamwork, support, and valuing voices. He toured all schools on the first day with the board president, vice president, and Ms. Dwyer, observing smiles, bubbles at elementary levels, inspirational chalk messages at middle schools, and high school excitement with 1,500-1,600 students. Summer meetings with Western Nevada College (WNC) addressed the non-renewal of the Aspire High School lease by June 30, 2026, with district facilities under review for relocation, planning to start in January. No student board member was secured due to summer disinterest, but applications are reopen this week, targeting the September meeting, with one lake student interested post-study abroad. The district office closure due to protected bats and honeybees led to a licensed beekeeper relocating bees to a Carson Valley ranch next week, with bats to follow before October, and Phil Demas coordinating repairs with insurance. Alvarado thanked Marcy Guthrie, GES, and Heritage staff for space-sharing, enjoying classroom interactions, especially with fifth graders near the 300 hallway. He attended the Nevada Association of State Superintendents (NASS) meeting, planning the October session at China Springs/Jacobson High School to showcase its programs, and the NASB strategic planning, noting two years remain in the current plan, with a new five-year plan next year.

Meeting Adjourned.