

**NYE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 16, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Gent, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Round Mountain High School senior student Hailey Oakley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**WELCOME:**

Mr. Gent welcomed everyone to the Board of Trustees meeting from the Southern District Office Boardroom in Pahrump and thanked Round Mountain High School for hosting today's meeting. He acknowledged that today is the first meeting since the passing of our beloved teacher, Mr. John McKenzie, and shared that we are grateful for his service and continue to mourn his loss.

**RECOGNITIONS:**

Chelle Wright, Human Resources Director, presented an award from the Nevada Department of Education to Alison Matulich, one of two educators receiving the 2025 Nevada Early Educators of the Year award. Mrs. Matulich is recognized for her contribution to early education and was also awarded \$500 and a Lakeshore gift certificate. Mrs. Matulich expressed her appreciation for the award and recognized all fellow educators for their contributions to education as well.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Nathan Gent, Vice President; Larry Small, Clerk; Leslie Campos, Member; David Harris, Member; Chelsy Fischer, Member.

Absent: Bryan Wulfenstein, President; Robert White, Member.

Executive Cabinet/District Office staff in attendance: Joe Gent, Superintendent; Genoveva Lopez-Angelo, Assistant Superintendent; Ray Ritchie, Chief Operating Officer; Chelle Wright, Human Resource Director; Brian Kunzi, Legal Council; Nate Cardinal, Director of Maintenance Operations Safety and Security; Robert Williams, Director of Technology; Justin Deverse, Assistant Director of Technology; and Alma Wright, Executive Assistant.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Harris requested that agenda item 10 be moved to 7A; Mr. Gent moved to change it.

**GENERAL PUBLIC INPUT**

Round Mountain: Holly Merritt, instructional coach in Round Mountain, shared that there are holes in high school personnel that are difficult to fill, such as an opening in Math, and shared that teachers have given up 8 weeks of prep time to teach and tutor students in Math. She recognized the wave of compassion for students.

**DISCUSSION/APPROVAL OF BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF NAMING AND RENAMING OF THE ROUND MOUNTAIN FOOTBALL FIELD:**

David Harris presented a proposal to rename the Round Mountain football field to John and Janine Jacobs Field. He highlighted John Jacobs' significant contributions as a former principal, athletic director, and football coach, emphasizing their commitment to both athletics and academics. The renaming, which

requires a 30-day notice, is projected to be actionable at the December board meeting, and Mrs. Jacobs and her children will be present.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- Approve, disapprove, amend, or modify the September 18, 2025, minutes
- Approve, disapprove, amend, or modify the September 18, Closed Session minutes
- Second Reading NCSD Policies:
- 6143 - Staff Conduct
- 6231 - Annual Leave
- 6311 - Work Day
- 6575 - Arrest Convictions of Certified Employees
- First Reading NCSD Policies:
- 5563 - School Volunteers
- 6275 - Temporary and Part-Time Personnel
- 6574 - Progressive Discipline of Classified Staff
- 8130 - Emergencies
- Approval of FY26 Annual Class Size Reduction (CSR) Plan

Mr. Small made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Campos seconded, and the motion passed with a vote all in favor 5-0.

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mrs. Lopez-Angelo introduced Thad Wind, Round Mountain Schools Principal, who presented on the school's spotlight, noting that the elementary school was a one-star school in 2023-2024 with low proficiency in math and ELA. Mr. Win outlined goals for continuous improvement, emphasizing staff development through administrative and peer observations and focusing on attendance as a core priority for both elementary and high school levels. Mr. Wind detailed strategies to combat chronic absenteeism, including rigorous enforcement of attendance policies and seeking community support from local businesses to incentivize good attendance. They also described efforts to improve classroom instruction and student conduct by implementing observation cycles, peer-to-peer observations, and a "no-fly list" to keep students in class, reducing distractions and unauthorized hall roaming. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Ritchie provided a financial update, informing the board that despite a federal government shutdown, the district will continue drawing down our G5 funds, and confirmed that with Grants yesterday and shared the information from August 8, 2025. As of today, we will not be able to draw down the funds, but are still receiving G5 money. We do not know where this will end up but have planned accordingly and are being cautious.

Mr. Cardinal reported on construction progress, noting that Tonopah Elementary School was nearing completion, they are getting ready to do accent paint; the coalition roof was 80% complete, and upcoming projects included various roof replacements at Pathways and Tonopah Elementary school office, the Tonopah sports complex, softball bleachers at PVHS, new fire alarm infrastructure for the mods at JG and MCES, fridge and freezer replacements at Beatty High School, Tonopah High School, Manse and JG, and a full HVAC replacement at Hafen Elementary School.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Gent praised Mr. Wind's active presence in classrooms and commended the community's "class act" celebration of life for John McKenzie. Dr. Gent also recognized Ray Richie and Genoveva Lopez-Angelo for their effective representation at the legislature's InterFinance Committee in Carson City. We were one of the few districts that received a pass due to the efforts of Mr. Ritchie and our Finance Department, which also helped us avoid intense scrutiny. Dr. Gent also acknowledged that we are doing everything

possible to find an administrator for Tonopah. We also had our first Teacher Advisory Council, where Mr. Small, Harris, and Mrs. Fischer participated and expressed positive feelings about its future work. Dr. Gent shared information about new guidance laws from the Department of Education regarding enrollment and the science of reading.

#### **BOARD REPORTS:**

Mr. Harris highlighted that Round Mountain High School has a trap shooting team. He mentioned that the students utilize the new trap shooting range located at Carvers. Furthermore, he proudly declared that, as the only team currently, they compete locally and submit their scores.

Mrs. Fischer shared positive feedback on the Teacher Advisory Council and thanked everyone for volunteering their time. She also addressed the district's efforts to hire behavioral specialists amidst a national crisis.

Mr. Small requested that the minutes be corrected to reflect that he, and not Mr. White, participated in the Teacher Advisory Council, and he met with Mr. Cardinal regarding a gate in the Rosemary Clarke Middle School parking lot.

#### **CLOSED SESSION- MEETING WITH MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING COLLECTIVE DISCUSSIONS PURSUANT TO NRS 288.220**

**Closed Session started at 6:32 pm**

**Closed Session ended at 6:58 pm**

**Regular Session Resumed at 7:02 pm**

#### **APPROVE, DISAPPROVE, AMEND, OR MODIFY THE PROPOSED CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN REGARDING NON-PERMISSIBLE PHYSICAL RESTRAINT VIOLATION:**

Mrs. Fischer made a motion to approve the proposed Corrective Action Plan. Mrs. Campos seconded, and the motion passed with a vote all in favor 5-0.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE PERS CRITICAL LABOR SHORTAGE DESIGNATION OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHER AND SUBSTITUTE SUPPORT STAFF POSITIONS. SUBSTITUTE SUPPORT STAFF ROLES INCLUDE SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVER, SUBSTITUTE BUS AIDE, SUBSTITUTE BUS MONITOR, SUBSTITUTE CAMPUS MONITOR, SUBSTITUTE CLERICAL AIDE/SECRETARY, SUBSTITUTE COMPUTER TECHNICIAN, SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAN, SUBSTITUTE FOOD SERVICE, SUBSTITUTE HEALTH AIDE/LPN, SUBSTITUTE INTERPRETER, SUBSTITUTE LIBRARY AIDE, SUBSTITUTE LUNCH AIDE, SUBSTITUTE PARAPROFESSIONAL/CLASSROOM AIDE, AND SUBSTITUTE TRANSLATOR.**

Mr. Small made a motion to approve the PERS Critical Labor Shortage Designation of Substitute Teacher and Substitute Support Staff positions. Mr. Harris seconded, and the motion passed with a vote all in favor 5-0.

#### **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL OF THE NCSD WARRANTS:**

The board discussed NCSD warrants with Mr. Richie, addressing trustee questions. Mr. Harris inquired about specific expenditures, including a Best Western High Desert charge for employee travel, a Lex Technica LTV charge for due process legal counsel fees, and a University of Wisconsin-Madison charge

likely for conferences or training. The Hope Squad LLC expenditure for suicide prevention programs in high schools and middle schools was also clarified.

Mrs. Fischer made a motion to approve the warrants. Mrs. Campos seconded, and the motion passed with a vote of all in favor 5-0.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING FUTURE BOARD MEETING TOPICS:**

None.

**DISCUSSION TO APPROVE, DISAPPROVE, AMEND, OR MODIFY THE DATE OR ATTENDANCE AREA OF FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:**

None.

**GENERAL PUBLIC INPUT:**

Allison Metalich, from Mount Charleston Elementary School, acknowledged the passing of Mr. Howard Owens, a former teacher and substitute, for his service to the Round Mountain community. She also applauded the decision to split the kindergarten class in Tonapah and thanked the special education department for purchasing lidded trash cans for diaper disposal at Mount Charleston Elementary. Ms. Metalich concluded by expressing that teachers at Mount Charleston Elementary are very exhausted and need more adult support to maintain student-to-adult ratios, especially with children with special needs

**ADJOURNMENT:**

7:18 pm

By\_\_\_\_\_

Larry Small, Clerk