

**NYE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
February 19, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Campos, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Clara Raetz, a Beatty High School student, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**WELCOME**

Mrs. Campos welcomed everyone to the Board of Trustees meeting.

**RECOGNITIONS**

Mrs. Weir acknowledged the basketball teams participating in the state championship: Beatty girls, Round Mountain girls, and Tonopah boys basketball. Pahrump Valley High School's (PVHS) 3A wrestling team went to state and came out 6th.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Absent: Bryan Wulfenstein, President

Executive Cabinet/District Office staff in attendance: Joe Gent, Superintendent; Laura Weir, Assistant Superintendent; Assistant Superintendent; Genoveva Lopez Angelo; Ray Ritchie, Chief Operating Officer; Michelle "Chelle" Wright, Human Resources Director; Brian Kunzi, Legal Counsel; Nate Cardinal, Director of Maintenance Operations, Safety, and Security; Robert Williams, Director of Technology; Justin Deverse, Assistant Director of Technology; Alma Wright and Iliana Garcia, Executive Assistants.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

No change.

**GENERAL PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Hodge addressed the Board regarding the district's food service, questioning the charging of faculty and staff for meals. He advocated for a comprehensive review of student nutrition, citing significant health concerns and noting a direct correlation between diet and student behavior. He concluded by urging the Board to evaluate both the quality of the food provided and the overall food service.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- Approve, disapprove, amend, or modify the January 15, 2026, minutes
- Approve, disapprove, amend, or modify the January 15, 2026, Closed Session minutes
- Appoint Daniel C. McArthur, Ltd. to conduct the independent audit for the year ending June 30, 2026
- NCSD 2nd Quarterly Report

- First Reading NCSD Policy 6147, 6148, and 5030
- 2026-2027 Academic Calendar - Final Draft (Including PD/Inservice Dates)
- Approval of Recurring Grants for 2026-2027

Mr. Small made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. White seconded, and the motion passed with a vote all in favor 6-0.

### **ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

Principal Steven Sullivan presented the Beatty Schools Spotlight, reporting a 4-star rating for the High School and a 3-star rating for the Middle School, while noting the Elementary School’s shift to 1 star due to growth gaps. He highlighted a school-wide decrease in absenteeism and outlined strategies to meet NWEA goals, including lesson chunking and immediate feedback. Principal Sullivan also noted that school culture is being bolstered through the Hope Squad and a revived Pep Band. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Cardinal provided project updates and noted that the track was repainted for regional competitions at no additional cost to the district. Finalization of the Tonopah Elementary school punch list is underway, with a formal staff walkthrough scheduled for March 5th at 1:00 p.m. Regarding the sports complex, the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) is on track for presentation at the May board meeting. Additionally, the Manse’s elementary school’s pickup and drop-off system has transitioned to a double-line configuration, a change intended to improve both operational efficiency and student safety. Discussion ensued.

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Dr. Gent reviewed the district’s early-start calendar alignment, confirmed law enforcement’s validation of the new Manse Elementary traffic procedures, and reaffirmed the district’s commitment to data-driven adjustments and strict legal compliance in agency interactions.

### **BOARD REPORTS:**

Mr. White commended Dr. Gooch and the Pahrump Valley High School (PVHS) choir for their successful qualification for the All-State Choir. He expressed his desire to invite the choir to perform for the Board at a future meeting.

Mr. Harris expressed his gratitude to the district for the recent upgrades to the high school concession stand, noting that the investment significantly enhances revenue opportunities for the athletic department. Additionally, he attended the Youth Rodeo Club’s competition.

Mr. Small thanked Mrs. Weir and Mrs. Lopez Angelo for their diligent oversight of Board goals. He also shared positive updates regarding the Teacher Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Superintendents’ Student Advisory Board, encouraging further student engagement. Finally, he highlighted several upcoming events, including the Amargosa Science Fair, the March 5th tour of Tonopah Elementary School, and Reading Week.

Mrs. Fischer recommended inviting Assemblyman Gregory Hafen to Reading Week and noted that Dr. Gent’s curriculum updates align with TAC feedback. She proposed a future discussion on K–3 spelling and addressed the ESEA Title I conference, citing concerns over low parental engagement at most schools except for Floyd Elementary.

## **RENAMING THE ROUND MOUNTAIN FOOTBALL FIELD TO KNIGHTS MEMORIAL**

Mr. Harris proposed renaming the Round Mountain football field to 'Knights Memorial Field.' This dedication would serve as a lasting tribute to the deceased community members, staff, and former students whose contributions have left a significant impact on the school.

Mr. Gent made a motion to approve agenda item 10. Mr. White seconded, and the motion passed with a vote in favor 6-0.

### **A. Discuss the bid responses received for the Summer 2026 Hafen HVAC replacement project. B. Award the construction bid from Southwest Mechanical as the lowest responsive bidder in the amount of \$566,500; or C. Reject bids and provide direction to staff on how to proceed with the project**

Mr. Cardinal gave bid reviews and recommended awarding the contract to Southwest Mechanical, the lowest responsive bidder, in the amount of \$566,500. In response to inquiries regarding potential roof leaks, staff clarified that the units are floor-mounted. The only roof penetration required is a single, sealed aperture for the thermostat wiring, significantly mitigating any risk of water intrusion. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Gent made a motion to approve the bid to Southwest Mechanical. Mr. Small seconded, and the motion passed with a vote all in favor 6-0.

### **Award or reject bids for the asphalt sealing project at Manse Elementary and Rosemary Clarke Middle School from the following: Anderson Asphalt & Striping for \$78,432.05 or Affordable Striping and Sealing, LLC for \$77,214.45**

Mr. Cardinal presented the proposal for the asphalt sealing project at Manse Elementary and Rosemary Clark Middle School. Following a review of the proposals, Mr. Cardinal recommended awarding the contract to Affordable Striping and Sealing LLC as the lowest responsive bidder in the amount of \$77,214.45. Discussion Ensued.

Mr. Gent made a motion to approve the bid to Affordable Striping and Sealing LLC. Mr. Small seconded, and the motion passed with a vote all in favor 6-0.

### **AWARD OR REJECT BIDS FOR THE CARPET CLEANING DISTRICT-WIDE FROM THE FOLLOWING: TODDS CARPET AND TILE CLEANING FOR \$73,910 OR DIAL CARPET CLEANING FOR \$82,335**

Mr. Cardinal presented a proposal for district-wide carpet cleaning to be conducted during the summer break. Mr. Cardinal recommended awarding the contract to the lowest responsive bidder, Todd's Carpet and Tile Cleaning, for \$73,910. Mr. Cardinal highlighted the effectiveness of the deep-cleaning process, which utilizes floor machines equipped with carpet brushes for mechanical agitation. This method has successfully rejuvenated existing flooring and remains the preferred standard for the custodial staff. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Small made a motion to approve the bid from Todds Carpet and Tile Cleaning. Mr. White seconded, and the motion passed with a vote all in favor 6-0.

### **AWARD OR REJECT BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF TRADITIONAL WIRELESS ACCESS POINTS, SWITCHES, SWITCH-ROUTERS, AND UNINTERRUPTIBLE**

**POWER SUPPLIES TO ARCTIQ IN THE AMOUNT OF \$258,515.31 FOR WHICH 85 % IS REIMBURSABLE THROUGH THE FEDERAL E-RATE SYSTEM**

Mr. Williams presented the procurement of wireless access points, switches, routers, and uninterruptible power supplies from Arctic in the amount of \$258,515.31. This annual request fulfills the district's E-Rate Category Two hardware requirements, with 85% of the total cost eligible for reimbursement through the Federal E-Rate Technology program. It was noted that the absence of competing bids resulted from Arctic's recent acquisition of two former competitors. However, through the use of deal registration, Arctiq secured the most competitive pricing available from Hewlett-Packard. Discussion ensued.

Mrs. Fischer made a motion to approve the bid from Arctiq for \$258,515.31. Mr. White seconded, and the motion passed with a vote all in favor 6-0.

**REVIEW DRAFT OF BOARD POLICY AND REGULATION 5557 REGARDING USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN EDUCATION**

Mr. Williams presented updates to Regulation 7363R, prohibiting AI-enabled wearables during instruction to ensure FERPA compliance following incidents at PVHS. He also introduced Policy 5557 (First Reading), establishing a "human-in-the-loop" framework and a "Traffic Light" system for AI integration. The policy includes a tool vetting process and a projected 2027–2028 student rollout. The item was moved to next month's consent agenda. Discussion ensued.

**CLOSED SESSION**

At 7:16 PM, Mrs. Campos moved to recess into closed session pursuant to NRS 288.220. Meeting with Management Representatives Regarding Collective Bargaining Discussions. The Board reconvened in open session at 7:27 PM.

**RATIFICATION OF THE NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NYE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS (NCASA) AND THE NYE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (NCSD)**

Mrs. Wright asked for approval of the ratification of the Negotiated Agreement between the Nye County Association of School Administrators (NCASA) and the Nye County School District, effective for the 2025–2027 contract term.

Mr. Gent made a motion to approve item 17. Mr. White seconded, and the motion passed with a vote of all in favor 6-0.

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

Mr. Gent made a motion to approve the warrants. Mr. Small seconded, and the motion passed with a vote of all in favor 6-0.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING FUTURE BOARD MEETING TOPICS:**

Mr. Harris would like the review of AB501 elective credit compliance for recreational teams (Trap Shooting/Rodeo) and a proposed increase in semester test weighting to 20%.

Mrs. Fischer requested a future agenda item to evaluate elementary spelling proficiency as a core component of foundational literacy. Additionally, she would like a briefing on the ESEA conference to ensure District programs remain in compliance with federal educational guidelines.

**REMOTE RURAL BOARD MEETINGS: MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION FROM BOARD MEMBERS.**

The Board reviewed survey results comparing the value of formal annual meetings versus informal trustee visits in rural communities. Community Preferences: Beatty and Round Mountain requested to maintain both annual meetings and visits. Gabbs and Amargosa, citing low evening attendance and four-day schedules, preferred impactful daytime visits to better engage with students and staff. Consensus on Impact: Trustees agreed that daytime visits offer more meaningful feedback and engagement than after-hours meetings. They emphasized the importance of flexible scheduling to accommodate shifting community needs and avoid instructional disruption.

Item 20 was tabled pending the development of a formal visitation plan. The matter will be revisited in May during the 2026-2027 calendar approval.

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

None.

**GENERAL PUBLIC INPUT:**

Beatty Schools Principal Mr.Sullivan addressed the Board regarding site visits and meeting accessibility. He advocated for a parent survey to assess if current meeting times accommodate working families in distant communities. Additionally, he recommended that Board site visits be scheduled during standard, full-day sessions to ensure an authentic view of instructional activities and the student dining experience.

Fifth-grade teacher Mrs. Harris requested a collaborative discussion regarding the departmentalization model. While acknowledging the potential for specialized instruction and deeper content expertise, she noted a perceived discrepancy between empirical data and the daily classroom experiences of the teaching staff. Mrs. Harris expressed significant concern regarding the reduction of a Resource Department position. She noted that maintaining only two resource teachers for approximately 50 fifth-grade general education students creates a caseload that is not sustainable under current operational standards.

Community member Alison Matulich submitted a written comment emphasizing the importance of board oversight through school site visits. She recommended that trustees conduct unannounced visits during standard instructional days—rather than scheduled activity days—to gain a more authentic understanding of daily school operations and classroom environments.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

7:57 PM

By \_\_\_\_\_

David Harris, Clerk