

**NYE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
November 13, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Wulfenstein, President, called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Lyla Reed and the Floyd Student Council led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**WELCOME:**

Mr. Wulfenstein welcomed everyone to the Board of Trustees meeting.

**RECOGNITIONS:**

Mrs. Weir recognized Tammy Anderson from JG Johnson Elementary School for her exceptional dedication and effort in coordinating the annual Veterans Assembly for the past 15 years. Mrs. Weir also provided athletic updates, noting that many teams qualified for regionals or state championships.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Executive Cabinet/District Office staff in attendance: Joe Gent, Superintendent; Laura Weir, Assistant 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; and Iliana Garcia, Executive Assistant.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

No changes.

**GENERAL PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Hodge expressed gratitude to J.G. Johnson Elementary School for their well-done job in showing appreciation for veterans.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- Approve, disapprove, amend, or modify the October 16, 2025, minutes
- Approve, disapprove, amend, or modify the October 16, Closed Session minutes
- Second Reading NCSD Policies:
  - 5563 - School Volunteers
  - 6275 - Temporary and Part-Time Personnel
  - 6274 - Progressive Discipline of Classified Staff
  - 8130 - Emergencies
- Approve, disapprove, amend, or modify the Library Contracts for Amargosa Valley, Gabbs, and Smoky Valley.

Mr. Harris made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the amendment to correct the spelling of the names Jon Jacobs and Alison Matulich. Mr. Small seconded, and the motion passed with a vote all in favor 7-0.

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mrs. Lopez-Angelo introduced Floyd Elementary Principal Greg Bailey and Assistant Principal Laura Kares for the Floyd School spotlight. The presenters highlighted the school's culture, noting a foundation of strong community engagement and student achievement. Mr. Bailey noted a major academic milestone by advancing from a two-star to a three-star rating (58.5 points), supported by significant gains in reading proficiency (with all remediation focused on ELA). Non-academic success included a 55% reduction in suspensions and a 65% reduction in overall referrals due to consistent discipline processes. Mr. Bailey shared that departmentalizing fifth grade resulted in a 10-point science score increase, addressing a challenge of low science proficiency. A key challenge noted was the loss of eight paraprofessionals, impacting the instructional environment.

Mrs. Lopez-Angelo introduced Hafen Elementary Assistant Principal Derrick Yeoman for the Hafen School spotlight. Mr. Yeoman shared that Hafen is currently a two-star school but aims to achieve a three-star rating next year through instructional calibration and targeted instruction. A key success was the jump in Spanish-speaking student proficiency, rising from 1/10 to 7/10 students proficient by January. Core instruction utilizes the H&H reading/writing and Envision Math programs, with plans to implement student data walls. Strategies include improving student discourse and differentiated instruction, supported by a high 96% staff retention rate. Hafen plans to implement "instructional realms," a research-based model where task complexity is viewed as a predictor of performance, and leverages effective teacher-led in-services for best practice adoption.

Mrs. Lopez-Angelo and Mrs. Weir both presented the Board Goal Quarterly Updates showing progress across five targets. For the first goal, 74% of teacher instruction aligns with essential standards, and the benchmark for discussing common formative assessments in PLCs was exceeded, with 37% of teachers participating. The third goal on new hire support yielded strong results, reporting nearly 90% positive satisfaction from new hires and 75% satisfaction from administrators. Family engagement (Goal 4) saw a 15% increase in open house participation, and the fifth goal on custodial services showed a 78.3% satisfaction rate among responding staff. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Ritchie provided a financial update reporting on the governor's special legislative session, which includes education, but with unknown specifics. He was informed that the Commission on People Center Funding had been canceled. He also noted that the delivery of the financial and student activity audits had been delayed because the federal government closure prevented the approval of the new supplemental guidance. The proper paperwork for an extension was filed and granted by the state, and the audits are expected for next month.

Mr. Cardinal provided project updates, including that the Tonopah school is on schedule and the three roofing projects at the NyE Communities Coalition, Beatty Elementary, and Round Mountain Schools are complete. A job walk was conducted for new roofing projects at Pathways and Tonopah Elementary Schools. Bids are scheduled to be opened on December 19th, and hopefully return in January for board approval. Discussion ensued.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Gent reported on the district's significantly increased focus on improving instructional practice, directly aligning with the mission to be learning-focused and the vision of fostering high-level learning for all students and staff. He recently spoke with the new State Superintendent, Dr. Wakefield, who inquired about Nye County. Dr. Gent highlighted Nye's unwavering commitment to enhancing literacy and writing, affirming that the district is interested in research-based instructional practices exclusively and remains focused and not distracted by other factors. Finally, Dr. Gent acknowledged the unique celebration of JG Johnson's Veterans Day event, while also confirming the success of similar celebrations held at other schools across the district. He personally participated by reading to a class at Floyd Elementary. Finally, he reported on the state's implementation of a new district star rating system, noting that Mrs. Veloz, Principal of Pahrump Valley High School, serves as the principal representative on the committee. He reiterated that he cares about student achievement and students' learning and growth. He believes that if we take care of our instructional practice, our student achievement will improve and the star ratings will take care of itself.

## **BOARD REPORTS:**

Mr. White attended the JG Johnson's Veterans Assembly, expressing gratitude for the wonderful event and offering thanks to all Veterans for their service.

Mr. Harris attended a Nye County Park and Recreation meeting in Round Mountain. He highlighted the local trap shooting team, noting the success of one student who won the weekly shooting competition. He also attended the middle school dance and Floyd's Math Carnival. He announced the beginning of the bell-ringing season and requested the school district's participation. Finally, he raised a concern regarding the overwhelmed status of the PVHS athletic secretary, stressing that adding graduation duties would significantly increase the workload.

Mr. Small attended a workshop with the Emergency Operations Plans Committee with Nate Cardinal and Jeff Kaye from PoolPact, to review the district's emergency procedures. He reiterated that student safety remains his foremost priority. He also reminded the Board of the annual Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB) Conference, scheduled for December 4th through the 6th in Reno, and announced a future Superintendent's Student Advisory Board meeting slated for November 11th.

Mrs. Campos offered brief thanks to all Veterans and congratulations to the student-athletes for the fall sports season. She noted that she personally attended the first round of the playoffs in Tonopah.

Mr. Gent expressed his appreciation for the schools' effective handling of community outreach through sports and various events. He anticipates the success of future engagements.

Mrs. Fischer also thanked JG Johnson for their Veterans Assembly. She provided updates on legislation & funding, noting that while education was not formally on the special session agenda, she anticipated discussion of SB460. She confirmed her ongoing efforts to restore

funding for paraprofessionals in kindergarten classes. She also reported that the massive film tax credit bill was rejected, which would have risked overburdening the Medicaid system and increasing the influx of students. In addition, she spoke about special education, stressing the need for increased, dedicated funding for special education to hire behavioral specialists and support teams at every school, believing that the current lack of intervention may contribute to disruptive conduct. Finally, Mrs. Fischer thanked the district and staff for the new practice of issuing public statements about serious incidents, which ensures timely information for parents and the Board.

Mr. Wulfenstein reported his attendance at recent football games and offered congratulations to the teams. He noted that the district is fortunate to have great students who receive strong support at home, which contributes to a positive shift currently taking place within our communities. He emphasized that community engagement is critical for transparency and familiarity. He thanked the families for being involved and strongly encouraged all families to increase their participation, anticipating further positive improvements. Finally, he expressed his gratitude to the Board for their continued dedication. Discussion ensued.

#### **DISCIPLINE/RESTORATIVE JUSTICE QUARTERLY UPDATE**

Mrs. Weir reported updates on student behavior in quarter one of last year compared to quarter one of this year. Behavior incidents by grade level, a decrease in incidents at the elementary and high school level and an increase at the middle school level. Mr. Small asked for a breakdown per middle school. Mrs. Weir will forward the Board the breakdown. Behavior incidents by location, transportation data incidents on the bus and at bus stops decreased, an increase in the classrooms, and an increase in other areas. Behavior incidents by types, disruptive conduct remains the majority of behaviors, though this category saw a slight overall decrease. Mr. Wulfenstein asked how much of that would be with cell phones? Mrs. Weir and Dr. Weaver will analyze the data further to determine if recent cell phone policy changes influenced the disruptive conduct rate. Battery on Staff Incidents involving battery on staff increased. Mr. Small emphasized the need to disaggregate special education data from general education data for incidents like battery and fighting/battery, noting that special education students can change general reporting. Discussion ensued. Substance Incidents notable decreases were reported in all substance-related incidents, including tobacco (25 to 20), marijuana (17 to 6), and alcohol (1 to 0). Almost all incidents involved vapes in MS and HS. Discussion ensued. Mr. Small asked about absenteeism and the resources to handle any type of incidents, and if we need to have a Truancy Officer on staff. It was proposed that inviting Judge Lane to a School Board meeting would be beneficial to discuss the matter and explore pursuing court grants. Discussion ensued.

#### **MENTAL HEALTH OVERVIEW**

Dr. Weaver and Mrs. Jerabek presented the district's comprehensive framework for suicide prevention, intervention, and post-intervention, guided by Policies 7642, 7650, and 7650R. The approach emphasizes proactive prevention, prioritizing safety over discipline, and viewing

challenging behavior as communication. Intervention Components: The framework includes mandatory staff training, curriculum to promote positive mental health, and a Hope Squad at the secondary level for post-incident support. Crisis Response (7650R): The procedure utilizes social workers/counselors as first responders and a crisis team. First responders use the ASQ (Ask Suicide Screening). If ideation is confirmed, licensed professionals conduct a safety assessment, or outside resources are provided. Re-entry Protocol: Students require a mental re-entry plan after an attempt, which mandates documentation from a mental healthcare provider. This process faces challenges due to HIPAA constraints and parental non-participation. Collaboration: The framework stresses team collaboration and building trust. Strategies include environmental adjustments, de-escalation, and restorative conversations. The district is actively exploring outside agencies to supplement internal support. Discussion ensued.

**CLOSED SESSION- TO CONSIDER THE CHARACTER OR ALLEGED MISCONDUCT OF A PERSON PURSUANT TO NRS 241.030. MEETING WITH MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING COLLECTIVE DISCUSSIONS PURSUANT TO NRS 288.220**

**Closed Session started at 7:45 pm**

**Closed Session ended at 8:33 pm**

**Regular Session Resumed at 8:36 pm**

**APPROVE, DISAPPROVE, AMEND, OR MODIFY AN EXPULSION OF A STUDENT:**

Item 13 Mr. Wulfenstein made a motion to amend the proposed two-year expulsion to a permanent expulsion from Nye County schools, with the exception of distance education through Pathways. Mrs. Fischer seconded, and the motion passed with a vote of 6 ayes and 1 abstained: Mrs. Campos abstained due to a conflict.

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

Mr. Gent made a motion to approve item 14. Mr. White seconded, and the motion passed with a vote of all in favor 7-0.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING FUTURE BOARD MEETING TOPICS:**

Mr. Wulfenstein would like to schedule a future meeting with Judge Lane to be attended by Mr. Wulfenstein, Dr. Gent, Mr. Kunzi, and any interested Board member on a first-come, first-served basis (no quorum).

Mrs. Fischer announced that she and Mr. White will be prepared to discuss, and potentially vote on, the removal of at least three lessons from the online supplemental curriculum, TAC, and Special Session update.

Mr. Harris would like to have an agenda item on renaming the Round Mountain football field in honor of Jon Jacobs.

Mr. Small proposed that a future informal Board topic focus on campus monitors, specifically examining their job titles, training protocols, and whether the current monitor-to-student ratio is adequate to support the district's projected growth.

Mrs. Campos will not be attending the upcoming Board meeting in December as her husband will be having surgery.

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

None.

**GENERAL PUBLIC INPUT:**

Alison Matulich spoke about behavioral data and school support. Ms. Matulich also suggested mandatory staff training on entering detailed behavioral notes into the Personal Learning Plan (PLP) log to ensure continuity of student history. Finally, she thanked Nate and his team for enhancing child safety.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

8:50 pm

By \_\_\_\_\_

Larry Small, Clerk