DISCLAIMER

Electronic versions of the exhibits in these minutes may not be complete.

This information is supplied as an informational service only and should not be relied upon as an official record.

Original exhibits are on file at the Legislative Counsel Bureau Research Library in Carson City.

Contact the Library at (775) 684-6827 or library@lcb.state.nv.us.

LARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

2832 EAST FLAMINGO ROAD

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89121

TELEPHONE (702) 799-5011



BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES Mrs. Sheila R. Moulton, President Mrs. Shirley Barber, Vice President Mr. Larry P. Mason, Clerk

October 10, 2002

Assemblywoman Chris Giunchigliani 706 Bracken Avenue

Dear Assemblywoman Giunchigliani:

Las Vegas, NV 89104-1644

Mrs. Susan C. Brager-Wellman, Member Mrs. Ruth L. Johnson, Member Mrs. Mary Beth Scow, Member Mrs. Denise Brodsky, Member

Mr. Carlos Arturo Garcia, Superintendent

Although AB 319 did not pass in 2001, I promised you that I would follow up on transportation concerns, which you indicated were the impetus for part of the bill. As a result, I convened a committee consisting of nine transportation employees (three supervisors, one investigator, four bus drivers, and the assistant director), as well as seven non-transportation staff (representing Student Support Services, school principals, and the legal office).

In the course of our discussions, it was clear that transportation staff felt that communication was the biggest obstacle to working effectively with schools, and they offered examples of problems they encounter:

- Transportation is not included in special education decisions, even when they are directly impacted, and they would like to ensure that principals include them in IEP meetings when applicable.
- Other problems are those that arise at the school, but end up on the bus, such as a teacher having a party last hour of the day, and then kids not being allowed to bring food and drink on the bus for the ride home - this creates a major discipline problem for drivers since food is not allowed on buses.
- The same holds true for teachers who give snacks as a reward to students who behave well, only to create a conflict for the bus driver when he/she has to confiscate the reward.
- Those present felt that many times new deans and assistant principals don't recognize that they have responsibility for dealing with bus citations. Because the incidents occur off campus, new administrators may mistakenly believe that they are someone else's problem.
- Transportation also stated that some bus drivers, both new and experienced, could benefit from additional training in behavior management. This would help eliminate the need for school administrators to deal with frivolous referrals.

Assemblywoman Chris Giunchigliani Page 2 October 10, 2002

Administrators and transportation personnel identified problems at individual schools, but the consensus was that the existing procedures related to the referral and disposition of student discipline matters are sufficient, and in those cases where there are problems they can be traced to either a driver failing to follow procedure, or a school administrator failing to follow procedure. Therefore, it was stated by transportation staff, and agreed to by others, that it is not necessary to overhaul the existing procedures, but to ensure that they are implemented consistently and properly. To that end, transportation representatives on the committee committed to reviewing policies and behavior management practices with drivers, and asked that school administration also review their responsibilities and implement them consistently.

By way of follow-up, the above conclusions were shared with all principals in the district at region meetings at the start of the school year, with direction from region superintendents to review procedure and ensure compliance. I also have spoken with Dr. Worsham who has agreed to consider adding information about handling transportation-related referrals to the administrative training program.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Craig Kadlub
Director, Public Affairs