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Press Release

Washoe School Board Uses Obscure Law To Minimize Transparency In Selection Of Candidates For Superintendent “The Vote Was Essentially A Charade”

Reno, Nevada - Todd “Taxpayer” Bailey submitted a compromise to the Washoe County School Board on August 6 for selecting a new Superintendent with transparency, and was disappointed when the board voted for the least transparent process possible under Nevada Law, NRS 332.115 which allows the board to hire a nation firm secretly to pre-screen candidates.

School Board Bumbling Again: *“What the school board voted for makes **Zero** sense. They claim they want to be transparent in all aspects of the Superintendent selection process, and then voted for the least transparent process possible under Nevada law. This is normally reserved for emergencies and law enforcement situations where only one specialized company is involved, such as software engineers. The school board already voted to take up to one year to select a Superintendent, and then claim they do not have the time to do it right. The excuse that staff simply does not have time for the most important priority in the district is a distraction, which was revealed when staff was suddenly available for the non-transparent process of selecting a national firm to pre-screen all candidates before the public is allowed to know who has even applied. The standard, statewide accepted **Request For Proposal Process** would also give the community more time for input in January, instead of rushing the process over the holiday season, as a parent informed them. It should be obvious to anyone who watches the video of the meeting, staff and some trustees had discussions outside the pubic view. The decision to go non-transparent had already been made before the meeting began, the presentation and vote was essentially a charade”,* said Mr. Bailey

New Board Members Underwhelming On Their #1 Campaign Promise: *“After such strong winded campaigns, the performance of the new school board members was underwhelming. While 4 different trustees (a majority), had reservations about the non-transparent process, they still voted for it”,* said Mr. Bailey. *“This is the “Forced Consensus” we’ve been speaking about, it’s how staff and a few board members get the votes they need, even if other Washoe School Trustees promised not to do so less than one year ago. Why is this school board so afraid of a public Request For Proposal process? They chose a less transparent process in order to be more transparent under NRS332.115? That is silly, and we believe illegal, NRS332.115 was NEVER intended to be used in the selection of a Superintendent of schools, that is supposed to be an open, public, and transparent process.”*

Nevada Accountability collects publicly available data, conducts deep policy research, and provides analysis through public reporting. For more information or to interview Todd “Taxpayer” Bailey, call **775 338-4443** to schedule. Membership information is available at www.NevadaAccountability.com