



Board of School Trustees  
Clark County School District  
5100 West Sahara Ave.  
Las Vegas, NV 89146  
702-799-CCSD

Dear Board of School Trustees,

The Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators (LVABSE) is a nonprofit organization with a mission to enhance and facilitate educational opportunities and social development of all students, especially underrepresented and underserved Black/African American children, by developing partnerships, creating professional development, promoting the placement of Black/African American leaders, and shaping public policy. We are guided by the legacy and principles of the late Congressman and activist John Lewis, who reminds us “to get in good trouble, necessary trouble, and help redeem the soul of America.”

The purpose of this letter is to ask the Board of School Trustees to vote to remove Dr. Jesus F. Jara from his role as Superintendent. We believe that our leadership, especially the Superintendent of the Clark County School District (CCSD) should display accountability during crucial moments. We, the members of LVABSE have lost our sense of trust in Superintendent Jara’s abilities to effectively lead with honesty. We were disheartened to learn that Governor Sisolak and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Jhone Ebert, publicly released a statement to denounce Superintendent Jara’s decision making during a special session of the Nevada Legislature. Governor Sisolak also stated, “While I’m not surprised, I’m incredibly disappointed that once again Superintendent Jara has tried to mislead the communities he represents.” CCSD is firm in their application process, that signs of dishonesty will make your application null and void. That same level of expectation should hold true for the Superintendent. Our governmental leaders should hold one another accountable for their actions. Holding an office or leading a school district is a privilege that many qualified individuals would be honored to hold. It seems that the powers and duties of the Superintendent have been taken for granted. Superintendent Jara represents the wider community of Las Vegas throughout the United States and has not represented us well.

---

P.O. Box 270736  
Las Vegas, NV 89127

**LAS VEGAS ALLIANCE**  
**BLACK SCHOOL EDUCATORS**



Currently, there is no Black representation on the Board of School Trustees, since Trustee Young has termed out beginning in January. Dating back to the beginning of the Board with District C, notables such as Bernice Moten, Virginia Brewster, James McMillan, Yvonne Atkinson Gates, John Rhodes, Shirely Barber, and outgoing Dr. Linda Young, the discussion has always been on the topics of equity, diversity, excellence, inclusion and systemic racism. With Superintendent Jara, the communication has fallen on deaf ears in regards to educational opportunities that impact African American students, families, employees, and business opportunities.

The entire world, including our beloved community is experiencing unprecedented times. Covid-19 is sweeping through our communities and impacting parents, educators, staff, stakeholders, and most importantly our children. The mistrust that has been established by Superintendent Jara makes it quite difficult to entrust him with vital decision making in matters that concern the education of our children, and vulnerable communities.

On top of Covid-19 stress, let us not forget the impact of the murder of George Floyd and the countless loss of Black lives due to police brutality. These incidents specifically impact Black students and need to be addressed. In times of distress, we depend on our leaders to make timely and sound decisions. The expectation is that those who lead us will speak on our behalf with a spirit of integrity and honesty. After the death of George Floyd, numerous universities and corporate leaders, locally and globally, wrote formal letters or gave statements about their institutions and stance on racial inequality and its impact on Black people. There was support of the Black Lives Matter movement nation-wide. While, CCSD sent a very informal letter to parents, we were hoping that a thoughtful and reflective letter from our Superintendent would be in order to address being in solidarity with educators, staff, and the most vulnerable, our students. Thoughtful and reflective conversations around race and racism should lead to an evaluation of how systemic injustices have infiltrated our educational systems. Without these important conversations, the implementation of just practices may not be actualized.

Not only do we request a comprehensive Covid-19 plan, we also request a comprehensive plan of how systemic racism will be abolished within CCSD. A Black feminist scholar reminds us that critical race theory (CRT) aims to reexamine the terms by which race and racism have negotiated in American consciousness. Where has racism found its way within our educational community? There is no way to fulfill CCSD's Focus:2024's biggest priority of ensuring quality and access to historically underserved and under-resourced communities without first acknowledging the oppression and racism within the educational system that prevents qualified educators and staff from leadership roles and the oppression and racism that prevents brilliant minds from performing their best in the classroom and ultimately leading productive lives.

We appreciate the time and effort the school Board of Trustees gives to serving the students within our community. We look forward to working together to ensure that every student in the Clark County School District receives a high-quality education.

Thank you for your time and service,

Kamilah Bywaters, M.Ed., M.Div  
President, LVABSE

Tracey Lewis

Vice President, LVABSE