CITY OF SPARKS	(A) (1)
REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL	(+4)
Date 5/13/19 Agenda Item No.	99- Public
Name / Traci Davis	COMMO
Address (Optional) WCSD	
City/State/Zip Code (Optional)	
Phone (Optional)	
I represent (Optional) WCSD	
I am in attendance concerning:	
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CITY OF SPARKS REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL

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Name Kiathleen Shower	Agenda Item No. Poblic Comment
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City/State/Zip Code (Optional)	
Phone (Optional)	
I represent (Optional)	
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[] I <u>do not</u> wish to speak, but wish to note my position in favor [] I <u>wish</u> to speak (for use by city: comment was in fa	or in opposition vor or in opposition)

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	CITY OF SPARKS REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL
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	City/State/Zip Code (Optional)
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	I do not wish to speak, but wish to note my position in favor or in opposition

I wish to speak

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Date 5-13-19	Agenda Item No.
Name Elyana (Ellie) le	reos
Address (Optional) 431 1/2 7	th St.
City/State/Zip Code (Optional) Span	ks, N 8943/
Phone (Optional) 775 351-665	-Ö
I represent (Optional) SelF	
I am in attendance concerning: Fraterna	e Order of EVIS - Noise Company
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	REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE	11 7
/	Date 5/13/19 Name Shirley Bertschinger	Agenda Item No. Fublic Commen
/	Address (Optional) 1832 Olancha Ct	
	City/State/Zip Code (Optional) Sparks 8913	12
	Phone (Optional) (775) 626-7708	
	I represent (Optional)	
	I am in attendance concerning:	
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Good afternoon Mayor & Council Members

For the record my name is Shirley Bertschinger. In August 2017, the RGJ had an article about naming schools that were going to be built, and asked if anyone wanted or knew of anyone to name a school after. Being a Citizens Advocate for many years, I started a campaign to have a school named after an extraordinary man who was the first Principal of Lincoln Park School here in Sparks, and served as Principal for 24 years. His name was Nick Poulakidas, and he died of a massive heart attack in 1981while attended a PTA Conference in Ely, Nv., which was near were he was born. He had been forgotten for 37 years by the School District, but not by his former teachers and staff.

That is why I am here today. I am not one of his former teachers, but I have learned since we were successful in getting the school named for him in South Meadows that for now 38 years, his former teachers and staff have met every month for a luncheon honoring him. I recently met and had lunch with this group and I am so impressed that they have never forgotten the Principal that they all loved and respected. They are a very special group that I think this City Council should honor them in some way. What dedication, and I doubt that any other Principal has been so honored. When we met at the first naming committee meeting, only one gentlemen on the committee was old enough to have ever heard of Nick Pouladidas, but his former teachers and others in a group that Nick belonged to, literally brought him to life, and he was chosen No. 1 at both naming committee meetings, and was voted unanimously by the Board of Trustees in November 2017. His dear widow who suffers from Dementia is now 96 years of age, and we were so happy that she would know that a school was named for her husband. She is in failing health now, and we don't know if she will be around when the school is completed in July of 2019.

I hope that this City Council will consider honoring these former teachers and staff for their dedication since 1981. Thank you for listening, and if any one has any questions, they can contact me. The Clerk has my name and phone number.

Shirley Bertschinger, Citizens Advocate 832 Olancha Court Sparks, NV. 89436 (775) 626-7708

Sparks school principal dies at Ely convention By PAMELA GALLOWAY FAY

Journal staff writer

Nick Poulakidas, principal at Lincoln Park Elementary School in Sparks, died in Ely Thursday night during a dance at the state PTA convention.

Washoe County School District spokesman Don Lynch said Poulakidas, 55, collapsed on the dance floor and was rushed to William Bee Ririe Hospital in Elv.

Hospital administrator Jack Wood said Friday that Poulakidas possibly suffered a heart attack. Poulakidas was dead on arrival at the

hospital, Wood said.

Poulakidas had worked in the Washoe County School District for three decades. Born in Ruth, he attended school in Ely and graduated from the University of Nevada-Reno in 1950. He later received his master's degree from UNR.

He was a teacher at Robert Mitchell Elementary School, Veterans Memorial and Sparks Intermediate School, where he also was vice principal for two years. He also served as principal of Mary Lee Nichols Elementary School. He had been principal at Lincoln Park since 1957.

Poulakidas was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, and served as worthy patron in 1979. He also was a member of the American Legion and the Masons.

He was actively involved in the Greek Orthodox Church, local and national PTA groups, the Washoe County Education Administrators Association and the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

He is survived by his widow, Chris, son Theo-LeGoy of Los Angeles, and one grandson. An- Nev., 89431.

other daughter, Kathleen, died in a 1972 airplane crash.

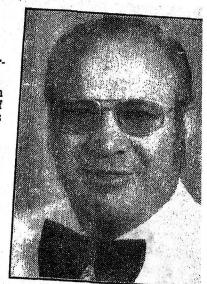
Other survivors include sisters Olga Winn and Adrienne Heusser of Ely, brothers Tom of Ely and Sam of San Diego, and several nieces and nephews.

A Trisagion service is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Sunday, at the Ross Burke Knobel Mor-

A funeral is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Monday at St. Anthony's Greek Orthodox Church. Burial will be at the Mountain View Cemetery.

Lincoln Park students are planning a memorial service and flag salute, according to the school secretary.

The family is establishing a Nick Poulakidas Scholarship Fund, Lincoln Park PTA, c/o of dore of Fort Hood, Texas, daughter Lynn Lincoln Park School, 201 Lincoln Way, Sparks,



NICK POULAKIDAS

Editorials Memorable educator

"He ran a tight ship," said one grieving teacher in describing the administrative style of Lincoln Park School Principal Nick

Poulakidas who died unexpectedly last week.

Poulakidas was just such an administrator. He was an insistent disciplinarian and his reputation for discipline was so widespread that it is said young teachers sometimes hesitated to accept assignment to the school.

He expected good appearance, conduct and performance at all times from his teachers, and he demanded attention and achieve-

ment from pupils.

When they failed to measure up, and Poulakidas knew that they were capable of performing better, he did not hesitate to take them to task for it.

And, it was for this reason, among others, that this longtime Washoe County educator (he was working on his 31st year as a teacher and administrator in this school district) came to be respected and loved.

Under him, both teachers and pupils learned. They were encouraged to learn, for, just as this principal insisted on performance, he was strong and quick in applauding and encouraging.

When a teacher tried, but faltered, he would be there with good advice and plenty of help. His organizational skills often brought reason out of turmoil.

Also, when teachers needed the backing of their administration, Poulakidas always backed to the hilt when it was justified.

He was deeply loved, too, for the many extra-school kindnesses he would show to all those around him, visiting teachers at home when they were sick or had suffered bereavement, spending long periods every day calming the anxieties of a homesick first-grader, never leaving the school until the last pupil had been picked up by parents, never forgetting the retired teacher no matter how many years had passed since retirement.

This love was shared by parents, who have shown it with extraordinary participation in the Lincoln Park Parent-Teacher Association, which has developed a reputation as perhaps the most consistently-active PTA unit in the state over most of the past two decades.

Parents and teachers give much of the credit to Poulakidas, who they say was their chief inspiration. The national PTA organization recognized him twice in recent years as Nevada's outstanding PTA member. The state organization so honored him last year.

He will be honored at his school Friday during a special memorial service being planned by the entire school community - an honor well deserved by a remarkable educator.

Editorials

Educator deluxe

One of the key compliments teachers can give to a principal is that he supports them vigorously in their work.

This was just the type of compliment being paid this week to Lincoln Park School Principal Nick Poulakidas, who died unexepectedly a few days ago. It has come sincerely and repeatedly from teachers who worked with him, and this — as well as the great grief they obviously feel - is a remarkable tribute to this longtime Washoe County educator.

Not that Poulakidas did not crack down on teachers when they erred. Indeed he did. He insisted on good appearance, conduct and performance at all times; he was a strict, no-nonsense administrator. He demanded — and got — the very best work that his staff was capable of. But he cared a great deal for his teachers, too, and was always ready to en-courage, praise, and help, or to visit teachers at home when they were ill or bereaved; and he always remembered retired teachers no matter how long it had been since they had left the school district

He brought the same loving strictness to his dealings with students. They were to act properly, and to study, but they were also to be praised for their efforts, and, when the need arose, to be supported emotionally, including time spent calming the anx-

ieties of homesick first graders.

Poulakidas also built a first-rate relationship with parents, that other essential half of the educational process. His interest in parents, and their heartfelt response, resulted in extraordinary par-ticipation in the Lincoln Park Parent-Teacher Association. This PTA developed into perhaps the most consistently active of any PTA in Nevada during the 24 years that Poulakidas was principal of the Sparks school.

Because of his PTA work, the national PTA organization twice recognized Poulakidas as Nevada's outstanding PTA member. He was similarly honored by the Nevada association last year.

One more honor will be coming his way this week. His school will host a special memorial service planned Friday by the entire school community. Many fine tributes will no doubt be offered on that day, as they should be. But his work itself is the finest tribute of all, and it will not soon be forgotten.

As an educator and as a man, Nick Poulakidas was first class.

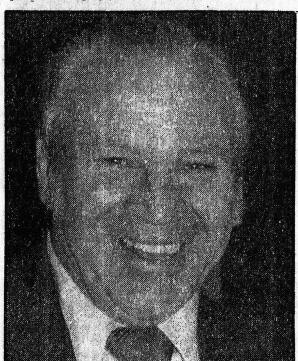
In memory of Principal Nick Poulakidas

Nick Poulakidas had lived all of his 55 years in Nevada and there wasn't a more popular, better-known or more effective elementary school official in the state.

Nick died unexpectedly last week and there since has been an outpouring of sorrow, written and spoken, and the grief and also the joy expressed for having known him, are understandable.

This was quite a man.

His adult world knew him well, for Nick was an open man, highly visible at Lincoln Park School in



NICK POULAKIDAS

Sparks, where he had been principal for 24 years, and he was a go-go doer in other areas of life.

Nick probably would have been surprised at the breadth and depth of sorrow his death caused. It seems like truly genuine people are forever underes-

Rollan Melton



timating just how much good they achieve, and how much they are loved. People like Nick seem too busy spreading worthwhile touches, to ever contemplate how they are perceived.

After Nick died, stories about him were told and re-told, but it seemed that all conversations ultimately turned to how much he loved the little children of his school, and how committed he was to seeing that they received a solid education start.

If he said it once, he must have said it a million times:

"Remember, we're here for the children."

Eulogies to him poured out. He was lauded as a great and good man from the pulpit and by the press. His staff of 22 persons at Lincoln Park School had wept before the children that Monday after he died. "I los is taken."

His second grade teacher Kay Crompton had written of him, in part:

"And all the hurt That we now feel Will dwindle slowly, Time will heal."

It remained for the children to provide the eloquence that told who Nick Poulakidas was and what he meant to adults and to the students.

The children went to their desks and wrote about their principal the past week and here is what some of them said:

"After he took a swing down (on the playground), I found a penny and I gave it to him and I said good luck." (Brooke Coleman, first grade)

"I came to the office and I said, 'This is book money,' and Mr. Poulakidas said, 'No, this is lunch

money.' I guess I made a mistake, but Mr. Poulakidas said, 'Just for that, I'm going to hold you here forever,' and we both burst out laughing." (Lucien Brodeur, second grade)

"He always helped the school. He helped in the lunch room the day before he died." (Becky Bailey, third grade)

"My mom knew it was going to be a good school because of Mr. Poulakidas being there." (Michelle Gutierre, fifth grade)

"Once I got in trouble, but he never yelled at me." (Craig Bushee, fifth grade)

"I would get hurt on purpose so I could go see Mr. Poulakidas." (Renee Bonney, third grade)

"I liked him because he was nice. He would walk into our room and watch us and say, 'Hi.' " (Sandy Vance, fourth grade)

"I know Mr. Poulakidas was my friend because he would make me become a good student and he would clean out my cuts, and he would talk to everybody no matter who you are." (Jason Schricker, second grade)

"I loved him very much." (Erin Grever, second grade)

"He helped us so much . . . he made the rules so good . . . he was like our family. He was a GREAT principal." (Brenda Rambosek, third grade)

On Friday, Nick Poulakidas' memory was honored in a ceremony at Lincoln Park School.

The children and the teachers and the other people stood in the park next to the school, the park Nick had loved so much, and loving words were spoken of him.

The songs, "Home Means Nevada" and "This Land Is Your Land," were sung.

A tree was planted in his memory.

A plague is to be placed at the base of the tree.

It will bear this inscription:

"Remember, we're here for the children." — Nick Poulakidas