

For Immediate Release
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Board of Trustees to consider postponing 2008 Bond

LAS VEGAS – The CCSD Board of School Trustees' July 16 work session was recessed until Friday, July 18, 2008, to provide an opportunity for public input and then take action on staff's recommendation to withdraw the 2008 bond question from the November ballot. The meeting will take place at 9 a.m. at the Education Center, 2832 E. Flamingo.

With fewer new students expected as a result of slower economic growth and with continued careful planning, district staff indicated that the 1998 construction program funded by tax-neutral bonds can be extended for two years. The revenue-neutral bond issue would be moved to 2010.

Wednesday's discussion followed a review of information from Chief Financial Officer Jeff Weiler, including the following:

- The number of teachers hired by CCSD is less than one-third of what it was last year.
- During the past school year, over 4,000 students have left CCSD; the largest exodus of students within a single year.
- Information from the DMV indicates a dramatic slowdown in the number of new students expected in the next school year.
- Nevada is experiencing a fiscal crisis, and it is possible that CCSD may need to increase class sizes if the 14 percent cut requested by the Governor is implemented.

While the district continues to monitor the economy and student enrollment, Superintendent Walt Rulffes said postponing the initiative is the most prudent course of action. Noting that the district is simply "recalibrating" the timing of its bond proposal, Rulffes added, "We are obligated to focus on student achievement while maintaining good stewardship of taxpayer dollars."

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