



Adrienne O'Donoghue, a teacher at Kenny Guinn MS, shows students at a school assembly the Olympic Torch she carried. O'Donoghue was one of two CCSD teachers chosen to run the torch preceding the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah.

## CCSD Teachers Show Olympic Spirit

As athletes from all over the world were preparing for the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah, two teachers from the Clark County School District were also getting ready for the opportunity of a lifetime - a chance to carry the prestigious Olympic torch.

Adrienne O'Donoghue, a math teacher at Kenny Guinn MS, and Lauren Watson, special education teacher at Palo Verde HS, were two of the 3,200 individuals selected nationwide to relay the Olympic torch to the 2002 Winter Olympics.

"It was a great honor to be selected as one of the torch carriers," said O'Donoghue.

Watson agreed. "I never thought I would be the one selected, but was absolutely thrilled at the opportunity," she said.

More than 21,000 individuals were nominated to carry the torch on a 65-day trek through 46 states.

A special Olympic committee chose the final 3,200 winners, selecting people who were known for their community service and inspiration to others.

Although the event is called a relay, each participant used a separate torch during the run. At the end of each stretch, the flame was passed on to a new torch and a new runner who continued to carry the flame towards the giant Olympic torch in Salt Lake City.

Runners had the option to purchase their torch for \$335 at the end of their run; both O'Donoghue and Watson did. O'Donoghue's torch was presented to Kenny Guinn MS at a special ceremony. It is on display at the school for the students to view.



## School Police Officer provides back-up vocals for Gladys Knight

CCSD School Police Officer Ken Young has spent most of his life around music, and from a very young age has wanted to perform on stage.

Today Officer Young is living his dream five nights a week at the Flamingo Hilton, as a back-up vocalist and dancer for Gladys Knight.

Young began performing with Knight in January and says for him, it's a dream come true. "Having the opportunity to perform with Gladys has made me appreciate music even more," said Young.

While Young performs Tuesday through Saturday with Gladys Knight at the Flamingo, he still manages to do an outstanding job as a CCSD School Police officer.

"Music will always be a big part of my life," said Young, who also directs a youth choir at Victory Baptist Church. "But helping others is still my top priority."

Within the district, Young has found a way to combine his two passions - helping others and singing. Young is instrumental in the success of Z2 (pronounced Z Squared), a violence prevention initiative, and uses his musical talent during school assemblies to teach a positive message.

Young hopes one day to find a way to help young people get started in the music business. But for now, he's content just singing with Gladys.



The multi-talented Ken Young serves as a CCSD School Police officer and sings back-up for Gladys Knight.

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## Las Vegas Academy selected for prestigious awards

Las Vegas Academy was awarded two prestigious honors by the U.S. Department of Education. The school was named a Blue Ribbon School as well a New American High School. Only 16 schools in the country received both awards this year.

To be selected as a Blue Ribbon School, a school must exemplify excellence in leadership, teaching, curriculum, student achievement, parent involvement and community support. The process also includes assessing the school's strengths and weaknesses while developing strategic plans for the future.

Many of the same criteria apply for the New American High School award. The U.S. Department of Education recognizes high schools throughout the country that are committed to high standards for all students and have achieved excellent results.

"I am very proud of our teachers, staff and students for their dedication, which keeps our school cutting edge," said Principal Bob Gerye. "We certainly have much to celebrate."

**GOOD JOB LAS VEGAS ACADEMY!**





Each month at Joseph Neal ES, students, staff and parents transform the school's main lobby into a "wonderland" area. The lobby's theme is coordinated monthly according to the time of year, season or holiday. Featured above is the "spring" theme.

### June 11

Western HS	T&M Center	8:30 a.m.
Valley HS	T&M Center	11:00 a.m.
Basic HS	T&M Center	1:30 p.m.
Green Valley HS	T&M Center	4:30 p.m.
Virgin Valley HS	Virgin Valley	7:00 p.m.
Palo Verde HS	T&M Center	7:30 p.m.

### June 12

Rancho HS	T&M Center	8:30 a.m.
Cimarron-Memorial HS	T&M Center	11:00 a.m.
Durango HS	T&M Center	2:00 p.m.

### June 13

Mojave HS	T&M Center	8:30 a.m.
Eldorado HS	T&M Center	11:00 a.m.
Bonanza HS	T&M Center	1:30 p.m.
CCHS	T&M Center	4:30 p.m.
Silverado HS	T&M Center	7:30 p.m.

### June 14

Centennial HS	T&M Center	9:00 a.m.
Foothill HS	T&M Center	12:00 p.m.
Desert Pines HS	T&M Center	3:00 p.m.
Cheyenne HS	T&M Center	6:00 p.m.

### June 15

Clark HS	T&M Center	9:00 a.m.
LVHS	T&M Center	12:00 p.m.
Chaparral HS	T&M Center	3:00 p.m.
SNVTC	T&M Center	6:00 p.m.



## 2002 Graduation Schedule

### May 22

ATTC	UNLV Ham Hall	7:00 p.m.
H.J. Stewart	H.J. Stewart	7:00 p.m.

### May 23

J.S. Miller	J.S. Miller	10:45 a.m.
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### May 29

Foreign Exchange	LVA Theater	7:00 p.m.
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### June 6

Variety School	Winchester Center	7:00 p.m.
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### June 7

Boulder City HS	Boulder City	7:00 p.m.
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### June 10

ATA	Cashman Center	3:00 p.m.
Alternative HS	UNLV Ham Hall	3:00 p.m.
Laughlin HS	Laughlin	7:00 p.m.
Indian SpringsHS	Indian Springs	7:00 p.m.
Moapa Valley HS	Moapa Valley	7:00 p.m.
LVA	Cashman Center	7:00 p.m.
Adult Ed.	UNLV Ham Hall	7:00 p.m.

## NEW MASTER'S PROGRAMS - SPRING 2002!

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**Ms. Petite Nevada**

Green Valley HS Special Education teacher Andrea Dorst was selected to represent Nevada as Ms. Petite Nevada. Dorst will compete in the Ms. Petite International Pageant in Houston, Texas, this summer.

**Science Olympiads**

A team of eight students from Las Vegas HS participated in the Nevada State Science Olympiad. The students received nine gold medals, three silver medals and four bronze medals. Las Vegas HS is the first Southern Nevada school to win the State Science Olympiad.

**Jump Rope for Life**

Elizondo ES helped raise funds for the American Heart Association during its third annual Jump Rope for Life. The school raised more than \$3,500.

**Professional Development**

Oran Gragson ES teacher Doreen Cocuzzi is the winner of Washington Mutual's Professional Development for Teacher's contest. Cocuzzi received a check for \$5,000 to be used on her choice of professional development for her teaching career. Her school received a matching \$5,000 contribution.

**Math for Money**

Students at Lawrence JHS helped raise funds for a good cause as they participated in the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Math-a-thon. The school raised more than \$6,000 which will be used to support St. Jude's cancer research efforts.

**A Carnegie Hall Performance**

Students from Mahlon JHS, Thurman White MS and Green Valley HS were invited to New York City, where they gave a special holiday performance at the prestigious Carnegie Hall. The guest conductor for the performance was Thurman White MS Choir Director Randy Pagel.

**High Marks Received**

Students from Judith Granese's Latin program at Valley HS have been recognized for their achievement on the 2002 National Latin Examination, their eighth consecutive year of high achievement.

**Teacher of the Year**

Bartlett ES second grade teacher Mrs. Wolfe was selected as Wal-Mart's Teacher of the Year.

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