



DISTRICT B NEWSLETTER



Chris Garvey

MARCH 2009

District B

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

High School Proficiency Test
March 17, 2009 Math and Reading
March 18, 2009 Science and Writing

** Need help, go to www.ccsd.net/cpd and click on the mathematics link for practice proficiency test and tutorials

Northwest REAB Meeting
April 2, 2009 at 9:15 a.m.
Brimley Middle School Lab
2480 Maverick Street

Northeast REAB Meeting
April 16, 2009 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Northeast Region Office
Mojave High School Campus

Virgin Valley CEAB Meeting
Date, Time and Location TBA

REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS

March 26, 2009, 4:00 p.m.
April 02, 2009, 4:00 p.m.
April 23, 2009, 4:00 p.m.

The above board meetings are held at:
Edward A Greer Education Center
Board Room
2832 E. Flamingo Road,
Las Vegas, NV 89121

SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS

March 25, 2009, 9:00 a.m.
April 01, 2009 9:00 a.m.

The above board meetings are held at:
Edward A. Greer Education Center
Board Room
2832 E. Flamingo Road
Las Vegas, NV 89121

For further information on the Clark County School District, please go to www.ccsd.net

Welcome to District B,

As the new Trustee of District B, I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who is working hard to improve and support education here in Clark County.

In my role as Trustee, I have had the opportunity to meet staff, parents, business owners, senior volunteers, and students who give their time, money and heart because they care about the education and the future of children. As I engage in conversations with constituents during this time of economic uncertainty, one message seems to be a constant, and that is, 'Don't make cuts to education'. If this message rings true for you, I encourage you to contact your legislator and let them know how you feel. Don't know who your legislator is? Go to www.leg.state.nv.us and look to the right side of the home page for the links, *Who's My Legislator?* and *What's My District?* Maybe you feel confused about how education is funded, you're not alone. iNvest in Education, located at, www.investK12nevada.org, is a great overview of where we are and where we need to be when it comes to the funding of education in Nevada. This is an eye-opening brochure to share with your friends, family, and legislators.

Since January, I have been able to visit and get to know the students, parents, and staff at many of the schools in our district. I look forward to establishing a similar relationship with every school community in District B.

On that note, I'd like to invite everyone to join me at the Centennial Hills Information Fair that is being hosted by the Las Vegas City Council on Thursday, March 19th, 2009, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The location of the fair this year is at the Clark County School District's Northwest Career and Technical Center, 8200 West Tropical Parkway. This is a great opportunity to receive information from a variety of community and public organizations, as well as see firsthand, just one of the innovative learning facilities here in your School District.

Sincerely,
Chris Garvey
658-6713

WEBCASTING NOW AVAILABLE

All regular school board meetings are now broadcast live over the internet. Go to www.ccsd.net. Archived videos will be available a few days after each regular meeting at www.ccsd.net/trustees.

Regular board meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month beginning at 4 p.m. in the Education Center, 2832 E. Flamingo Rd.

Coming up on the next School Matters:

Legislative Updates

Get the latest information on legislative issues affecting K-12 education

Thursday, April 16, 2009
8-9 p.m.
Vegas PBS, Channel 10

Speak Up for K-12 Education

75th regular session of the Nevada State Legislature is under way now

As the Nevada State Legislature moves into its 75th regular session, K-12 education is once again a very hot topic.

While the happenings in Carson City may seem distant and sometimes difficult to follow, the impact of the decisions made there are far-reaching and long-lasting. School districts around the state have already suffered major cut. To date, the Clark County School District has already cut or eliminated funding totaling more than **\$135 million**. These cuts include more than 250 administrative positions being cut or left vacant. While efforts have been made to ensure that these cuts have little effect on our classrooms, this cannot continue to be the case if further cuts are required. For this reason it is important that supporters of K-12 education speak up and share their thoughts and ideas with our elected officials.

There are several ways to get involved and make your voice heard.



Flags fly over the Nevada State Capitol as the 75th regular session of the Nevada State Legislature is under way.

Visit the Nevada State Legislature's website at

www.leg.state.nv.us. There you will find helpful information about your own representatives, bills moving through the Assembly and the Senate, personalized bill tracking, frequently asked questions and more. This website will also allow you to watch live, streaming video of many of the sessions.

Learn more about iNVEST, the plan for improving K-12 education in the state of Nevada. This plan is a collaborative effort between all 17 superintendents in the state and can be found at www.investk12nevada.org.

Find out who your representatives are by visiting www.leg.state.nv.us. Locate the link on the right side of the page that will help you determine not only who your representatives are and how to contact them, but what districts you live in.

Contact your legislator. A well-written letter is one of the best ways to let your legislator know your thoughts and opinions about a particular issue.

Put a message in your own words. Form letters and petitions don't have the same impact as personal, informed opinions.

Testify at a Hearing. One of the most important opportunities to become involved in the debate over a bill is when it's the subject of a hearing before a legislative committee. You can communicate personally with legislators at any time about any bill, but the committee hearing is the occasion when anyone may publicly approve, oppose, or suggest changes to a bill.

While it may not be possible to attend hearings in person in Carson City, the Legislature does make it possible to participate in some hearings by video-conference at locations around Southern Nevada. Announcements and lists of scheduled hearings are posted at www.leg.state.nv.us.

Sign up for weekly legislative updates on K-12 bills. Each week an email is sent from district staff and lobbyists that includes the latest on all bills affecting CCSD. Call the Board Office, 799-1072, to be added to the email list.

As the legislature moves forward it is critical that supporters of K-12 education in Southern Nevada do not go unheard. Together we can ensure that the students of Clark County and the state of Nevada are not forgotten and continue to achieve.

“Discover the Mysteries of the World: READ”

Nevada Reading Week – March 2-6



Trustee Sheila Moulton participates in Nevada Reading Week 2008 activities by reading to students at a local elementary school

In 1987 the Nevada Department of Education began a statewide initiative for Nevada teachers and librarians to celebrate reading through shared literacy-focused activities called Nevada Reading Week.

This year, Nevada Reading Week will be held March 2-6, 2009. This year's theme is **“Discover the Mysteries of the World: Read.”** Many local celebrities, parents and community members will participate in the festivities by telling stories and reading to CCSD students. Schools also host exciting literacy-based activities to encourage students to focus on the importance of reading.

The CCSD has long been committed to promoting literacy among students. Each school is equipped with a library and the district employs nearly 300 librarians who provide support to classroom teachers and maintain library services at local schools.

For more information about Nevada Reading Week activities taking place within your community, contact your local school. And remember, reading can be celebrated and enjoyed all year long.

“Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.”

--Joseph Addison--