



PACE

PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Terri Janison

FEBRUARY 2009

District E

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR

- 02/05/09.....Black History Month
- 02/02-06.....National Counseling Week
- 02/16/09.....Presidents Day
(No School)
- 02/17/09.....PTA Founder's Day

For a complete list of calendar dates access

<http://ccsd.net/news/calendar/pdf/Important%20Dates%2008-09%203.pdf>

REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS

- February 12, 2009, 4:00 p.m.
- February 26, 2009, 4:00 p.m.

WORK SESSION & SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS

- February 4, 2009, 9:00 a.m.
(Work Session)
- February 24, 2009, 5:30 p.m.
(Special Meeting)

The above Board meetings will be held at the Edward A. Greer Education Center, Board Room, 2832 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89121.

Access the district's website at www.ccsd.net

SNOW DAY MAKEUP

Monday, March 2

will be the makeup date for the December 18 snow day.

This applies to all schools except track 5 students at elementary schools on a 12-month calendar.

See you then!

A thank you to Jacobson Elementary School and Deborah A. Palermo, Principal, for hosting our January PACE (Parent Advisory Committee District E) meeting. The information on the upcoming legislative session was provided by Joyce Haldeman, Associate Superintendent, CCSD Community & Government Relations. Thank you.

Please join us on Wednesday, February 18, 2009, 9:30 a.m. at Fong Elementary School, Library, 2200 James Bilbray Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89108, telephone number 799-4890. Information on Poverty Awareness will be provided by Dr. Ron Lustig, Eldorado High School Principal.

Walt Rulfes, Superintendent of Schools, will be at the Wednesday, April 15, 2009, 9:30 a.m. PACE meeting at Katz Elementary School.

BECKER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Congratulations to the Becker Middle School Band who recently traveled to Washington D.C., for the Heritage Inaugural Festival held from January 16-20, 2009, where the 17 band members competed at the Jim Rouse Theatre for the Performing Arts in Columbia, MD. This once-in-a-lifetime event was highlighted by their attendance during the American tradition of the inauguration of our 44th President, Barack Obama.



Becker Middle School Jazz Band

EducateNevada.org

EducateNevada.org are the Nevada Systems of Higher Education comprised of eight public higher education institutions. They work closely with partners in education, the seventeen school districts in Nevada. Together they are advocates for a state education system from kindergarten through college that will meet the needs of individuals, our community, and Nevada.

Don't know who your legislator is? Go to:

<http://www.educatenevada.org/contact-legislator/>

If there is a topic you would like to see addressed at a PACE meeting, please email me at janistd@interact.ccsd.net.

Terri Janison

Day In and Day Out

Trustees work hard to serve the students of CCSD

One peek into the day planner or schedule of a member of the CCSD Board of School Trustees will quickly show that the work of a trustee is never slow, never dull and never done.

While the board's main responsibilities include the hiring and firing of the superintendent, overseeing of the budget based on available resources and setting of policy, their involvement and influence reaches far beyond the boardroom.

Board members regularly serve on separate committees that include Attendance Zone Advisory Commission, Bond Oversight, Council of Great City Schools, Parks and Recreation, Student Council Advisory, and more.

"Part of the school board's responsibility is reaching out to the community," says Trustee Terri Janison, board president. "We realize the importance of finding out what the pulse of the community is before we make decisions that affect our students and staff and by extension the community."

Trustees also belong to several national organizations, including the Council of Great City Schools, a group of urban school districts who gather to address the unique issues facing larger school districts, the National Intercollegiate Athletics Association and the National Association of School Boards. Membership in these organizations gives the trustees access to other districts and resources that only serve to improve the function of the CCSD.

Trustees also spend countless hours communicating with citizens, parents and students within their respective districts.

Each trustee hosts a monthly Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) or Community Education Advisory Board (CEAB), which allows parents and citizens to become more informed about district programs and to voice their opinions and suggestions on issues facing schools in their communities and the district as a whole.

"Students and parents are our customers and PAC and CEAB meetings give them the opportunity every month to



Trustees serve on important community committees to address issues such as student safety, zoning and parent and community involvement.

have one-on-one discussions with trustees about what is happening with their child's education," says Janison.

Despite busy schedules and the initiatives and responsibilities that come with overseeing the fifth largest school district in the nation, trustees also find time to visit the schools within their districts. Whether it is visiting with teachers and parents on the campus or reading and speaking with the students, the visits allow them to keep in touch with those they serve.

Serving a diverse, large school district during an economic crunch is not an easy task, and overseeing that is by no means without challenges.

"There's a lot of misinformation within our community about all the good things taking place in the district. I know what an incredible education you can receive in the CCSD because I work with it every day and trying to communicate that is difficult," says Janison. "As a board, we would like to encourage more people to get involved and get the facts and then work together with us to find solutions."

And yet despite any challenges that come with serving as a trustee, the rewards are certainly great.

Janison says, "It is always such a joy to see children in our schools engaged, happy and leaning. And of course the ultimate reward comes at the end of year when we are handing out those graduation diplomas."

For more information on the CCSD Board of School Trustees, to find out which trustee represents you or to see a calendar of board events, visit www.ccsd.net.

Get Involved

Board provides forums for information and participation

The Board of School Trustees encourages citizens to get involved in, participate in and support education in the Clark County School District. The board provides several ways for parents and citizens to do this.

BOARD MEETINGS: All board meetings are open to the public. Regular meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month in the Edward A. Greer Education Center, 2832 E. Flamingo Road. Special meetings are held when necessary. All board meetings feature a time for public comment. Interested citizens may present comments, suggestions or concerns in writing to the board office or in person at the meeting or may submit their name to speak in person by calling 799-1072. Calendars and agendas are available at www.ccsd.net.

PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Board members hold regular Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) or Community Education Advisory Board (CEAB) meetings to solicit public input and to discuss education issues. CCSD staff members are frequently invited to the meetings to update parents on new programs, curriculum, initiatives and more. Your presence is welcomed and encouraged at these meetings. For dates and times in your district, call 799-1072 or visit www.ccsd.net.

COMMUNITY LINKAGE: Community linkage events occur several times throughout the year and focus on specific topics and issues facing CCSD. Community members are invited to attend to learn more about the topic and then to voice their opinions or concerns. Community Linkage dates and times are listed when applicable at www.ccsd.net.

School Matters

Four times a year the board hosts a live call-in show on Vegas PBS to provide information and discuss education-related topics. Viewers are invited to call-in and submit questions related to the topic for live discussion on air.

The next School Matters will take place in April 2009. Watch the CCSD website for details and an opportunity to submit questions in advance..